

TRAVEL FREE TO PARIS ON EUROSTAR

SEE PAGE 13 OF THE TUESDAY REVIEW FOR COUPON

THE INDEPENDENT

No 3,717

TUESDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 1998

(1R50p) 45p

IN THE BROADSHEET REVIEW



Hamish McRae:
the year Japan
went west

TUESDAY REVIEW FRONT

Men. They're
enough to
make you ill

HEALTH, PAGE 10

Truth? So
where's the
Sport in that?

MEDIA, PAGE 15



SUNDAY SPORT
NAZI KILLER FLIES

Fury over 'greedy bosses' attack

BY BARRIE CLEMENT
AND COLIN BROWN

CABINET MINISTERS were furious with the TUC president, John Edmonds, last night after he bluntly told the Government to take action against the "greedy bastards" in Britain's boardrooms instead of calling for pay restraint from Britain's 5 million public-sector workers.

In a head-on collision over the Government's economic strategy, Mr Edmonds called for interest rates to be cut, accused top executives of indulging in the "politics of the pig trough", denounced the "bloated rodents" who held top posts at the privatised water companies and called for tax rises for everyone earning more than £50,000 a year.

The Prime Minister and a string of cabinet ministers were due to arrive at the TUC conference in Blackpool today to smooth over the row, but ministers were said last night to be "spitting blood" over Mr Edmonds' outburst and claims that 300,000 more jobs were at risk.

"Rather than telling us how to run the country you would have thought the TUC would want to address the fact that their own membership is at an all-time low," said a cabinet source.

The Chancellor, Gordon Brown, who is flying to Japan today for a crisis meeting over the turmoil in world markets, was said to be "very angry". But Mr Brown made clear before leaving that there would be no change of strategy or a return to the "boom and bust" of the Tory years. "We are pursuing the right course of action for the British economy," he said.



John Edmonds, TUC president, heartily opened the Blackpool conference yesterday, with general secretary John Monks behind him, and Tony Dobbins

John Voos

The Deputy Prime Minister, John Prescott, traditionally a TUC favourite, also delivered a tough message to the conference that the Government had to keep to its strategy. He told

TUC delegates yesterday that union officials should stop talking Britain into a recession. In particular, he took issue with the comments of Ken Jackson, general secretary of the Amalgamated Engineering and Electrical Union, who said the economy was "within hours" of diving into recession.

Mr Prescott also responded to Mr Edmonds' onslaught by insisting that he had not forgotten his working-class roots.

But Mr Edmonds had resolute support for his attack on Mr Brown's economic strategy, including a claim that increases in taxation were far better for damping down demand than keeping interest rates high at the expense of British industry.

To a roar of approval from the 800 delegates, Mr Edmonds reserved some of his strongest invective for Stephen Byers, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, who has led calls for wage rises to be kept to a minimum. "My advice to Stephen Byers is

not to blame the workers, but to tell the truth about what goes on in the boardroom," Mr Edmonds said. "A company director who takes a pay rise of £50,000 when the rest of the workforce is getting a few hundred is not part of some general trend. He is a greedy bastard."

The Prime Minister will meet TUC leaders tonight for a private dinner at their Blackpool conference to reassure them that the Government recognises it must do more to tackle unemployment.

David Blunkett, Secretary of State for Education and Employment, will today announce a multimillion-pound regional strategy to cope with factory closures, such as the shutdown of the Fujitsu semi-conductor plant in Mr Blair's Sedgefield constituency. The jobless will be offered retraining, reskilling and higher education courses. On Thursday, Peter Mandelson, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, will announce the establishment of "flying squads" to tackle areas in crisis after closures.

Mr Blair is expected to use a speech in his constituency tomorrow to announce the provision of grants enabling job-seekers to travel to areas where vacancies exist, echoing the "get on your bike" message from the 1980s by Lord Tebbit, the former Conservative Party chairman.

Mr Edmonds was accused of resorting to the "language of the saloon bar" by Simon Sperling, chief executive of the London Chamber of Commerce, who said company directors had generated economic growth, while union leaders had presided over a steep decline in their membership.

'Lying king' finds solace in Big Apple

WHEN THE GOING gets tough, you turn to your friends – and so it was yesterday for Bill Clinton.

His presidency on the brink, Mr Clinton boarded the most visible symbol of the power of his office, Air Force One, and fled the scandal-steeped hot-house of Washington for a day in the Big Apple.

No place delivers distraction like New York City, as the President found – in his seat at a gala performance of Disney's "The Lion King", amid fat-cat Democratic donors during dinner at the Supper Club before curtain-up; even before an audience in the morning at the Council of Foreign Relations.

Never mind that the ghost of Monica still stalked him back home; this was New York, the city and the state that extricated him from Jennifer Flowers and his didn't-inhale, dope-smoking flap with a big win in the presidential primaries back in 1992.

And the view from his limo seemed good. "Save the presidency, I'll be Kennedy Starr" proclaimed one banner as he arrived for his foreign policy speech.

For the White House, the day was a perfect projection of a pres-

BY DAVID USBORNE
in New York

ident going about business as usual. The "show", whether it is from Broadway or Pennsylvania Avenue, must "go on".

Later this week, there will be trips by the President to two cities, both likely to extend him

INSIDE

Party divides
re-opened
Crisis on hold
Pages 4 and 5
Market reaction
Page 18

a consoling embrace, Boston, with its crowds of Irish-Americans, and Los Angeles, home to Clinton-friendly Hollywood.

True, a few voices spoilt the

welcome. St Patrick's Cathedral, just a block from his Waldorf Hotel base, was not on his schedule. Cardinal John O'Connor had asked on Sunday which "decent-minded human being could be anything but repelled by the behaviour attributed to the President?"

And on the eve of today's gubernatorial and congressional primary elections in New York, Geraldine Ferraro, the former vice-presidential candidate, eschewed the opportunity to share a Disney's Broadway magic with the head of her party. Then there was the New York Post, Rupert Murdoch's Republican-friendly tabloid, gleefully dubbing the President the "Lying King".

But the stars rallied in force. The actor Kevin Spacey showed up for dinner and theatre and did the supermodel Naomi Campbell. Fears that some of the squeamish would skip the evening out did not materialise.

"Sex is sex. It happens, and it's been happening for millions of years," said John Catsimatidis, a supermarket tycoon, explaining his decision to attend. "I don't know anyone who's committed adultery who hasn't lied about it."

Dobson delays Viagra on NHS

BY JEREMY LAURANCE
Health Editor

THOUSANDS OF impotence sufferers face a delay of up to a month before they know whether they can obtain the controversial drug Viagra on the NHS.

The drug is to be given its European licence today by officials in Brussels. Yesterday's decision by Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary, to impose a temporary ban on its use on the NHS will mean a bonanza for private clinics and the black market, where the little blue pills have been available for months at up to £50 each.

Mr Dobson said expectations of the drug were so high that it could seriously drain NHS funds. "Other patients could be denied the treatment they need. I cannot allow this to happen."

The potential availability of this drug raises issues about the priority which should be given to the treatment of impotence on the NHS.

Doctors estimated that the drug could cost the NHS more than £1bn, but that was if every one of the 2.5 million impotent men in the UK came forward for treatment and wanted sex four times a week. A more conservative estimate by the manufacturer, Pfizer, based on 30 per cent of affected men seeking

specific advice is still awaited from the Standing Medical Advisory Committee.

Ministers are hoping that, after the expected surge of interest in the drug once it is licensed, demand will subside. In the US, where Viagra was launched last March, demand soared for the first three months, but fell suddenly as American men realised they did not want as much sex as they thought.

A spokesman for Pfizer said the natural effects of ageing and embarrassment over seeking help conspired to curb demand. "Let's face it, a lot of men are no longer interested in sex when they get older. It's a fact," he said. Derek Machin, secretary of the British Urological Association and a consultant urologist in Liverpool, said the temporary ban would put GPs in an untenable position.

"People who have had their expectations raised are going to go to their doctors to be told they can't get it," he said. "We have known for two years that this drug was coming and the day before it was licensed the Government says it hasn't had time to sort it out. I am not impressed."

World drug, page 3

MOUTH
WATERING
OYSTERS.
(BUT NOT
FROM OUR
FOOD HALLS).



Watch shown available in 18ct yellow gold priced £10,500, 18ct white gold £11,140.

It's probably the largest, most tempting display of Rolex Oysters you'll ever see, all glittering beneath the crystal chandeliers in our Fine Jewellery Room. And because we don't believe you'll ever see finer chronometers in your life, we've made sure it's not far from the Champagne and Oyster Bar.

Just in case you should feel like celebrating the purchase of a lifetime.

Watches, Fine Jewellery Room, Ground floor.

Harrods

Harrods Limited, Knightsbridge, London SW1X 7XL Tel: 0171-730 1234

INSIDE

FULL CONTENTS
PAGE 2

TODAY'S TV
REVIEW, PAGE 20

HOME NEWS

A single pill may protect women against three major diseases of ageing

HOME NEWS

Old enemies sat down together yesterday for the first meeting of the Belfast Assembly

FOREIGN

Fears rise for statues of Buddha in an area of Afghanistan taken by Islamic militia

BUSINESS

Hopes for interest rate cuts rose last night after an appeal by President Clinton

SPORT

New Zealand won the first rugby medal at the Commonwealth Games



INDEX**HOME NEWS**
PAGES 2 - 13**Pots of painting - by Picasso**

Pots, bowls and figures made and painted by Picasso go on show at the Royal Academy this week in an exhibition designed by arch-minimalist Sophie Hicks. Page 11

Royal Tournament scrapped

The Royal Tournament, a venerable institution for 118 years but declining in popularity for the past decade, is to be scrapped; it was announced yesterday. Page 11

FOREIGN NEWS

PAGES 14 - 17

Leprosy and loneliness in China

Lepers are no longer buried alive in China, nor are they still locked in "leprosy villages", but some sufferers, disfigured and disabled, prefer to stay in isolation. Page 16

The killing fields of South Africa

More than 500 white farmers in South Africa have been murdered since 1994, and the white landowners are threatening to take the law into their own hands. Page 17

BUSINESS NEWS

PAGES 18 - 23

Oil companies in £800m deal

Consolidation among Britain's smaller oil exploration companies began yesterday with the £800m merger of British Borneo and Hardy Oil and Gas. Page 18

SPORTS NEWS

PAGES 24 - 30

£20m to spend at Aston Villa

John Gregory, the Aston Villa manager, promised to continue strengthening his squad by using the £20m he has available for new signings. Page 30

Rose tries for European card

Justin Rose, the teenage golfer who finished fourth in the Open, joins 600 players in trying to win one of 35 cards to play on the European golf tour next year. Page 24

TUESDAY REVIEW
20-PAGE BROADSHEET SECTION**Terence Blacker**

'Lotteries have always gone down well in the world's poorer countries where despair, religious fantasy and cheap glamour feed off one another.' Page 4

Anthony Clare

'Nothing very much is explained by labelling Clinton's sexual indiscretions the result of an addiction ... We will almost certainly never know Clinton's sexual motivation. Even if we were to tell us we would not know whether to believe him.' Page 5

Letters	2	Health	11-12
Leaders and comment	3-5	Media	13-15
Obituaries	6-7	Listings	17-18
Gazette	7	Radio, Satellite TV	19
Features	8-9	Concise crossword	19
Arts	10	Today's TV	20

Cryptic crossword, section one, page 30



Recycled paper made up 46.03 per cent of the raw material for UK newspapers in 1997

DOVER/CALAIS
OVER 100 CROSSINGS EVERY DAY

Shop in Calais.
Enjoy the change.

Calais
begins with sea
F&O STENA LINE, SEAKRANGE & HOVERSPEED

No-exit estates 'must be cleared'

BRITAIN HAS several thousand run-down estates where conditions are reaching crisis point, according to a stark report published by the Government today.

The Social Exclusion Unit, set up by Tony Blair to tackle the problems of Britain's underclass, paints a bleak picture of life in deprived areas that have become "no exit zones" for the forgotten residents and "no-go areas" for others. Ministers believe many of the worst estates will have to be razed.

The report admits that previous attempts by the Government to improve the inner cities have failed to stem their decline, and says they have even made the problems worse. Money has been wasted on improving the physical appearance of the blackspots rather than helping local people.

Unveiling the report in London today, Mr Blair promises to bridge the widening gap between the poorest neighbourhoods and the rest of Britain. Admitting it will not be easy, he says: "I believe that it can be done. Indeed, if we are to bring Britain back together, it has to be done."

Conditions on the worst estates were simply not acceptable. "It shames us as a nation."

The Prime Minister will promise that his ministers will publish by the end of next year the co-ordinated strategy.

BY ANDREW GRICE

Political Editor

estates hit by a downward spiral of crime, drugs, empty homes and vandalism.

"There is no point going into the next century keeping estates that nobody wants to live in," Downing Street said. "Like a sinking ship, you have to save the people rather than the buildings."

But ministers will promise to local people to help to draw up local action plans, instead of "parachuting" in solutions from outside.

Mr Blair is adopting a high-risk strategy by promising to solve the problems, which have defeated previous administrations. Last night he said that successive governments had neglected the poor neighbourhoods for almost 30 years.

In an introduction, Mr Blair promises to bridge the widening gap between the poorest neighbourhoods and the rest of Britain. Admitting it will not be easy, he says: "I believe that it can be done. Indeed, if we are to bring Britain back together, it has to be done."

Conditions on the worst estates were simply not acceptable. "It shames us as a nation."

The Prime Minister will promise that his ministers will publish by the end of next year the co-ordinated strategy.



The Arnolfini portrait by Van Eyck hangs in Mirror Image, an exhibition on reflection selected by Jonathan Miller, which will be opening at the National Gallery in London tomorrow

Brian Harris

Beef ban could be lifted by Christmas

BY STEPHEN CASTLE
in Brussels

THE GOVERNMENT put a target date for the lifting of the European beef ban yesterday in its most optimistic statement yet over efforts to conclude the two-and-a-half-year dispute.

On his first visit to Brussels as Agriculture Minister, Nick Brown, who was promoted to the Cabinet in the summer reshuffle, said it was his "objective to get the issue resolved before Christmas". His com-

mentary, which has so far been

cautious about giving any timetable for a lifting of the ban. The minister was, however, careful to stress that this was an objective, rather than a firm commitment.

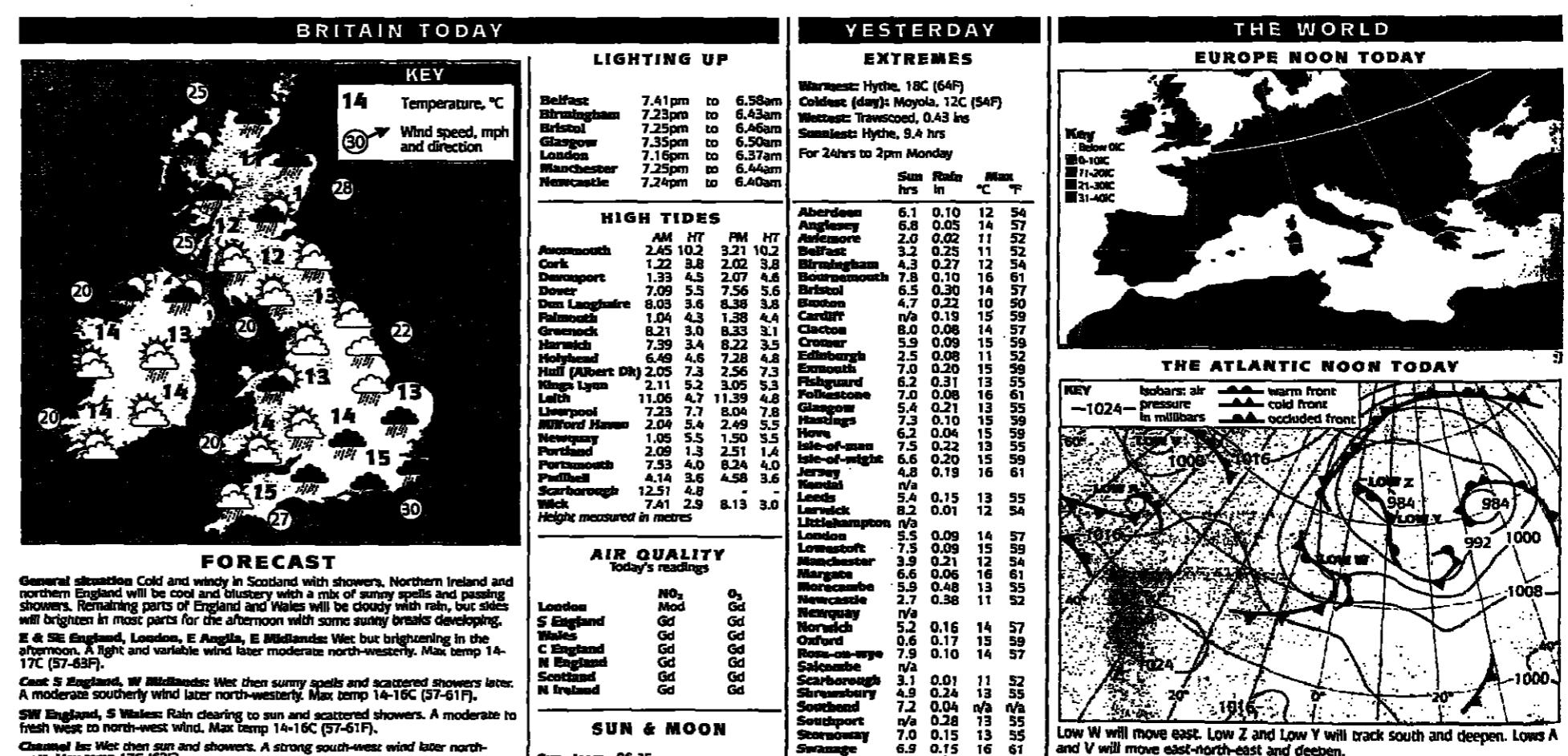
Progress has already been made and exports of beef from Northern Ireland, where a computer-tracking system is in operation, is now permitted. Before the summer break, the European Commission put forward a proposal for a lifting of the moratorium on beef exports under a date-based scheme that would allow the sale of beef from all cattle born after August 1996 - the overwhelming majority of British meat. However, no vote has yet been taken and Germany, where consumers are particularly sensitive to food safety issues, has been more resistant to a quick move.

Yesterday, Mr Brown said that Austria, which had also been thought to be cautious, was anxious to take a "relatively neutral position" because it was in the presidency.

The minister added that the EC's latest inspection report on conditions in Britain was "broadly supportive" despite some caveats. And he said there was no reason to suppose that recent worries about

transmission of BSE to sheep would harm his efforts to get the ban lifted.

Mr Brown took over as Agriculture Minister from Jack Cunningham in the summer reshuffle. Some feared the change of personnel could delay efforts to get the beef ban lifted, but Mr Brown stressed yesterday that there had been continuity among officials dealing with BSE.



DULL and cool with rain in the north and east on Wednesday, sunny spells and scattered showers in the south and west. Rain in the south and west on Thursday but sun and scattered showers in the north and east.

OUTLOOK

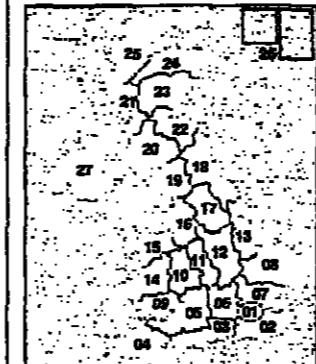
Dull and cool with rain in the north and east on Wednesday, sunny spells and scattered showers in the south and west. Rain in the south and west on Thursday but sun and scattered showers in the north and east.

and J7 Slough. New road layout with a 50mph speed limit in a new half-mile carriageway during flood relief work. Until 30th November.

Bristol M5 J16-A40. Major Roadworks on A40/A41 junction. Until 1 January 2001. Average speed 40mph. Until 1 January 2001.

Buckinghamshire: M40 between junctions 1a (M25) & 3 Wycombe East. Three narrow lanes each way and a 50mph speed limit in force. Until 1 January 1999.

Berkshire: M4 between J9a Maidenhead



Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Source: The Met. Office. Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).

Hype, hope and hysteria: welcome to the pill that's made the world quiver

BY KATHY MARKS

IF YOUR erection lasts for more than four hours, consult a doctor immediately. And stop smirking at the back of the class, Tompkinson-Minor.

Viagra is a serious business. It has brought hope to thousands of men who suffer from erectile dysfunction. The impotence pill has also been responsible for a plague of bad puns, and the worst epidemic of schoolboy humour since medical records began.

How many times have we read about shares in Pfizer, the company that makes the wonder drug, rising as spectacularly as the afflicted organ? Or about "hardened" criminals peddling counterfeit versions on the black market?

It is not only headline writers who have been snorting with laughter since Viagra burst on to the scene. There was the airline pilot who, banned by Air New Zealand from taking it lest it impair his flying ability, observed: "Maybe they're worried we'll get too much lift when we take off."

Viagra has every ingredient that one could wish for in a news story. Sex, of course, lashings off, together with the salacious details justified by the important medical angle.

Politics, too: earlier this month it was reported that election candidates in Taiwan were bribing rural voters with bottles of the diamond-shaped tablets.

And gender wars: disgruntled women demanded to know why female sexual dysfunction was not receiving the same degree of scientific scrutiny. It was not long before rumours spread that the drug worked for women too. One guinea pig, Annie Williams, told a tabloid newspaper: "Once Viagra kicks in, your only interest is pleasure. Having an orgasm, or three."

Not to be outdone, rival companies designed drugs specifically for the girls, including the evocatively named Erogen.

Then came Viagra wars: as the hype and hysteria grew, there was a dash to claim credit for inventing the drug. Pfizer said that it was a team effort, but one British scientist, Dr Nicholas Terrett, begged to differ, pointing out that his name was on two patents.

Talking of inventions, when Bristol consultant urologist Clive Gingell conducted the first pilot study of the chemical compound used in Viagra, he used a device called a Rigiscan

A shop in Phoenix, Arizona, offering holiday gift ideas. Will the remarkable popularity of Viagra make similar scenes familiar in Britain, too?

Mark Henle/AP

to measure the girth of penises of volunteers and their degree of rigidity in response to the drug. "The results were remarkable," he said. "You could see an increase in the quality and duration of erections."

Finally, every good story needs the added spice of danger; and in that respect Viagra did not disappoint. After the initial euphoria came the first reports of side-effects such as blurred vision: a relatively minor problem, patients may have thought, a small sacrifice in the pursuit of pleasure.

Then came the warnings about the potentially dire effect of unaccustomed exertion on

men with weak hearts. And inevitably, the lengthening list of fatalities: 69 in four months, as one newspaper pointed out; another article asked: "Did he die with a smile on his face?"

Joking aside, what man could suppress a shiver at the fate that befell a Dutch tourist who decided to experiment with Viagra while on holiday in Spain? The 50-year-old, according to reports, was in a state of agonising tuncescence for 36 hours. His plight was eased by doctors at an Alicante casualty unit, who treated him with a lotion normally used to shrink nasal tissue.

Pity, too, the hapless Harley Street doctor who tried the drug out on himself before prescribing it. "First of all, I went bright red and my eyes began to bulge out of my head," said Dr Richard Petty, medical director of the Wellman Clinic.

"Then my neck started to swell around my collar. My partner started laughing like a drain as soon as she saw me. I had the most whopping hangover, which lasted for hours, although the pill did have the desired effect."

Some elderly patients have turned violent after taking Viagra. A 59-year-old Florida man attacked a woman with a crowbar when she spurned his

advances. In Argentina, pensioners have turned down an offer of free Viagra from the state, accusing the authorities of "trying to kill us off".

It has not all been bad news.

At the Moonlight Bunnyranch brothel in Nevada, business is

booming as older men patronise the establishment again. In Vienna, impotent theatre lovers can buy half-price tickets for the world's first play about the drug, *Viagra Makes it Possible 99 Times a Day*.

Now spare a thought for the

French fertility expert who claims his career is under threat because patients no longer take him seriously. According to Dr Ronald Virag: "People think I am the inventor of the drug. I am frequently called Dr Viagra."

VIAGRA VIGNETTES



A slow and rhythmic creaking
From ancient marriage beds
An alms-house warden
Hearing, downs his cup
A wife turns off a wireless
Bought grey decades ago
Suggesting they go up

The plumping-up of pillows
A naughty nightie found
A frisson of relief
And recognition
A resurrected chimney
From lost industrial ground
Awaiting her demolition

Relaxing at the golf links
A doctor says it's good
But curses
His prescription writer's
cramp
Then, handicap forgotten
Selects himself a wood
As Eros pitches camp

In sated small hours
The beast with two bad backs
Lies chafed in petit mort
And de-tumescence
As vacuum pumps lie dusty
In dressing table drawers
And gather obsolescence

Then shaky-legged, a nation
Goes trembling off to work
Salacious sunlight
Rakes the bedroom floor
And on the tell-tale clothes fines
The sheets and duvets jerk
Like so much semaphore

MARTIN NEWELL

IT'S TOUGH WHEN A POLICEMAN HAS TO TELL THE NEXT OF KIN.
ESPECIALLY WHEN HE'S THE KILLER.



AND THE MEN WHO USE AND RECOMMEND IT



BOB DOLE

The American presidential candidate who stood against Bill Clinton in 1996, was the first public figure to admit trying Viagra. "It's a great drug... I participated in the trials programme," said Mr Dole, 74. The senior Republican, who suffered impotence problems after undergoing surgery for prostate cancer in 1991, added: "Depending on what your problem may be, it can certainly help."

JERRY SPRINGER

The US talk-show host, said the drug made him a "sex addict" after he was caught with a porn star, Kendra Jade, who appeared on his show. "I thought I was a sex superman," said Springer, 54. He was later said to have been thrown out by his wife when she learnt of a secret film made of her husband with Jade and her stepmother, Kelly, sold by the same Internet company that made millions from an X-rated video featuring Pamela Anderson.

HUGH HEFNER

The 72-year-old *Playboy* mogul, endorsed the drug recently when he said it turned him into a "babe magnet". "It permits you to perform as you like to think you were performing in your twenties and thirties," said the soft-porn purveyor. His estranged wife, Kimberly Conrad, fearing for his health, said he had "gone girl-crazy again", adding "he's already suffered one stroke. If he goes on like this, trying to push back the clock, he'll have another."

BOB MONKHOUSE

Was quoted at the weekend as saying that the drug "works after 40 minutes and lasts for about 90 minutes". Speaking about his active sex life as a younger man, the 70-year-old comedian told a newspaper: "My generation was at it all day long, as well as all night. They did it a lot more than the previous generation... I was just fortunate with the timing."

'Turn Willy into meatballs'

BY MICHAEL McCARTHY
Environment Correspondent

Iceland, should be turned into food aid, Mr Bastesen reckons. Keiko's carcass, he thinks, would yield about 60,000 meatballs, which could be sent to the starving children of the Sudan.

The 53-year-old independent MP, the only one in Norway's parliament, represents the Lofoten Islands, the country's whaling area. He has been whaling since he was eight and still hunts minke whales in the summer.

"There are more than enough killer whales around - we don't need to import them," he said. "Anyways, the only good killer whale is a dead one."

His views were not appreciated by the Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society, the British group that has been supporting the efforts of the Free Willy/Kelko Foundation to bring about the first successful return of a captive orca to the wild. "I don't think it's a particularly constructive comment," said its campaign co-ordinator, Fran Clarke.

THE BILL

TONIGHT
8:00PM

ALL NEW EPISODE

ITV

www.itv.co.uk



Impeachment reopens the party divides

THE BIPARTISAN robes that Congress donned as the Starr report was released already look frayed. Democrats and Republicans are squabbling over the terms of any inquiry into President Bill Clinton, an ugly sign of what may be worse fights to come.

The path that could lead to impeachment will start to be mapped today, but it could be months before any inquiry formally opens and next year before any decision on impeachment is reached. The two sides are arguing over the timetable, procedures and appropriate punishment.

There is a formidable array of detail that has yet to be agreed. The Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives meets today to establish rules under which it would conduct an initial probe, and that should be agreed by the full House tomorrow.

The committee will examine the Starr report and all the evidence that goes with it until 28 September, when it must report back to Congress. Full impeachment hearings would require another resolution and, while that may come in the next few weeks, it is uncertain whether these would begin this year. Congress adjourns on 9 October to prepare for elections on 3 November and, although

BY ANDREW MARSHALL
in Washington

representatives could be called back, the elections blow a hole in the timetable for hearings.

Strategically, the Republicans have an interest in dragging out proceedings, since every day they are under way is another day the President is under attack. The Democrats will want to close things as rapidly as possible, if for no other reason than to contain the damage in the elections.

That ensures a battle as the two sides seek to extract tactical advantage. What makes it worse is that the Judiciary Committee contains some of the most ideologically zealous members of Congress, each only too aware that they are in the limelight.

There is already a battle between Democrats and Republicans over terms of the initial inquiry, with Henry Hyde, committee chairman, pressing for extensive and draconian powers, including the right to arrest witnesses who refuse to testify. He also reportedly wants to be able to brush aside claims of executive privilege, which the Clinton administration has repeatedly used in its defence.

John Conyers, the senior Democrat on the committee, is furious that Mr Hyde wants to

ignore Watergate precedents – Mr Conyers is the only remaining person on the panel to have been through the hearings on Richard Nixon's impeachment – and negotiations stalled completely last week.

The Democrats have started to propose congressional censure, a slap on the wrist and a fine, rather than impeachment as the appropriate way to discipline Mr Clinton. The Republicans repudiate this, saying that the impeachment process must take its course.

Large, expensive teams of lawyers are being assembled. On the Judiciary Committee, the leading officials behind the Republican Congressmen are Thomas Mooney, 55, the chief of staff and a 30-year committee veteran, and David Schippers, 38, who arrived four months ago. Mr Schippers, a Chicago prosecutor, helped to jail the mobster Sam Giancana. A devoted Democrat, his presence is intended to confirm the impartiality of any inquiry.

Their Democrat counterparts are Julian Epstein, 57, who worked for Mr Conyers for 14 years, and Abe Lowell, 46, who will be chief advocate for the defence. Mr Lowell previously defended such tarnished figures as former House speaker Jim Wright and former congressman Dan Rostenkowski.



Bill and Hillary Clinton walking across the White House South Lawn to his helicopter for a flight to New York for fund-raising events in the city. Reuters

Blair will stand by his man

TONY BLAIR promised Bill Clinton yesterday he was not a "fair-weather friend" and would stand by him as he struggled to survive as President.

Downing Street even dismissed the significance of the Starr report. "The Prime Minister doesn't dump people because some report appears on the Internet," said Mr Blair's official spokesman.

He made his remarks as it became clear that the tide of American public opinion is starting to turn in Mr Clinton's favour and the prospects of impeachment are receding.

In the strongest expression of support for Mr Clinton during the sex scandal crisis that has engulfed the White House, the spokesman said Mr Blair would dismiss calls by some Labour MPs for him to distance himself from the beleaguered President.

Some MPs fear Mr Blair may be damaged by this close association with Mr Clinton, especially if the President is forced out of office.

They want him to scrap plans to meet Mr Clinton in New York next Monday.

Downing Street insisted, however, that the meeting would go ahead.

It would take place at a conference of centre-left parties on the global economy and the "third way" policy agenda sought by Mr Blair and Mr Clinton as an alternative to the "old right and left".

Mr Blair's spokesman said it

BY ANDREW GRICE
Political Editor

was in Britain's national interest to maintain a close relationship with the leader of the world's most powerful country.

"He sees President Clinton as a very good friend and ally to this country, not least for what he has done on several occasions for the Northern Ireland peace process," the Number 10 spokesman said.

"This report is a matter for the American Congress and the American people."

"The Prime Minister is not a fair-weather friend and whether people like it or not, that's the way he operates."

Never the less, some differences between the two leaders have emerged during their telephone conversations about the world's economic problems.

Mr Clinton, anxious to be seen on the international stage to deflect attention from his domestic crisis, is keen to call a meeting of leaders of the Group of Seven (G7) leading industrial nations.

Some MPs fear Mr Blair may be damaged by this close association with Mr Clinton, especially if the President is forced out of office.

They want him to scrap plans to meet Mr Clinton in New York next Monday.

Mr Blair; who currently chairs the G7, does not want to summon fellow leaders to a summit unless he is convinced it would achieve tangible results.

Aides say he wants to avoid a "talking shop" meeting which would be dismissed by commentators as a "damp squib".

A decision on whether to call such a meeting would be taken in the next two weeks.

'They investigated my sex life once – report filled 36 boxes'

CIGARS, ANYONE? How about a little tearful repentance over breakfast? Much of the White House fiasco sounds like the script of a raunchy, off-the-wall comedy show.

But America's comedians are treading around the Clinton crisis with uncharacteristic caution, apparently unsure whether to laugh or wince.

BY ANDREW GUMBEL
in Los Angeles

At Sunday night's Emmy ceremony in Hollywood, usually an opportunity for presenters to let rip on the big issues of the day, the scandal in Washington was largely ignored. A roster of stars, from Tom Hanks down, were all given cues to spill out

Clinton jokes, but few seized them.

"This is not the place," said a stern-faced Billy Crystal, the television awards' master of ceremonies. "It's such a horrible thing. It's not funny to me, it's sad."

Those who tried to make light of the Starr report's explicit sexual detail ended up

sounding rather lame. "Early in comedy this was used as a prop," ventured the comedian Chris Rock as he brandished a lengthy cigar: "It still is."

Elsewhere on the airwaves, the dozen of late-night chat shows, David Letterman, barely gave the Clinton affair a mention. Only Jay Leno, host of *The Tonight Show*, really re-

lished the subject and breathed any life into it.

"This Ken Starr report is now posted on the Internet. I'll bet Clinton's glad he put a computer in every classroom now," said Leno. "I think secretly he's bragging to his buddies in the White House locker room: 'Yeah, they investigated my sex life. Needed 36 boxes!'"

Part of the problem for the nation's comedians is that oral sex, masturbation with a cigar, and the rest, are not normally considered subjects fit for airing on network television.

Comedians, far more acutely than members of Congress, have to consider public sensitivities, and the public is more embarrassed than amused.

Letters in the US newspapers complained yesterday about the unnecessary explicitness of Ken Starr's revelations, and recounted endless anecdotes of the difficulties in explaining the whole thing to over-inquisitive children.

Sharper wit came from political columnists. Ronald Brownstein, writing in the Los

Angeles Times, described the Starr report as "an X-rated version of 'Green Eggs and Ham,'" the children's classic by Dr Seuss: "Did they fondle on the desk? Did they fondle on the mess? Was the president on the phone? Did she talk dirty from her home?"

The joke seems to be as much on Ken Starr as Bill Clinton.

Computer whizz kit.

Connect Ericsson mobiles to the widest range of PC's, PDA's, palmtops and laptops.



The unique Ericsson DI27 Infra-red Modem

The DI27* is the smallest, lightest and most fully featured hardware modem in the world. Now you can e-mail, fax and access the internet anywhere from an office in Orpington to a sauna in Sweden.

A milestone in wireless connectivity, the DI27 connects Ericsson phones via infra-red technology so you don't need cables or cards. Because the DI27 utilizes the IrDA protocol, it's compatible with the widest range of computers.

It makes your mobile office even more mobile.

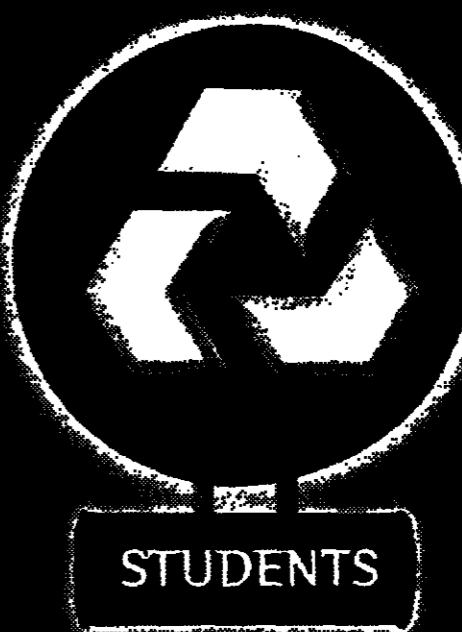
For further information on the DI27 call Ericsson Customer Support 0990 237 237.

Make yourself heard.

*Compatible with all Ericsson 600/700 phones and IrDA products.

ERICSSON

It's a great sign...



...at least £35 cash or a BT EasyReach Pager for opening a Student Account*

Starting college or university?

We can help with...

A cash gift of at least £35* for first year students. Those who qualify for our Student Banking Service at selected branches will be eligible for a bonus of £15*, bringing the grand total to £50. Alternatively, opt for a BT EasyReach Pager to help you stay in touch with friends and family.

More student branches open or near campus than any other bank, and with a network of over 17,000 cash machines we're always close at hand. At all our branches you will find either our specialist Student Banking Service or Student Advisers who can offer guidance to help you manage your finances throughout your course.

They'll also help you work out the right overdraft to see you through the term with the arranged amount completely interest free, up to the maximum level for your year of study.

With all this on offer, plus much, much more, it's no wonder so many students choose NatWest.

To apply or for more information

pop into any branch or

call 0800 200 400

Monday to Friday 8.00am - 8.00pm

Saturday 9.00am - 6.00pm

NatWest

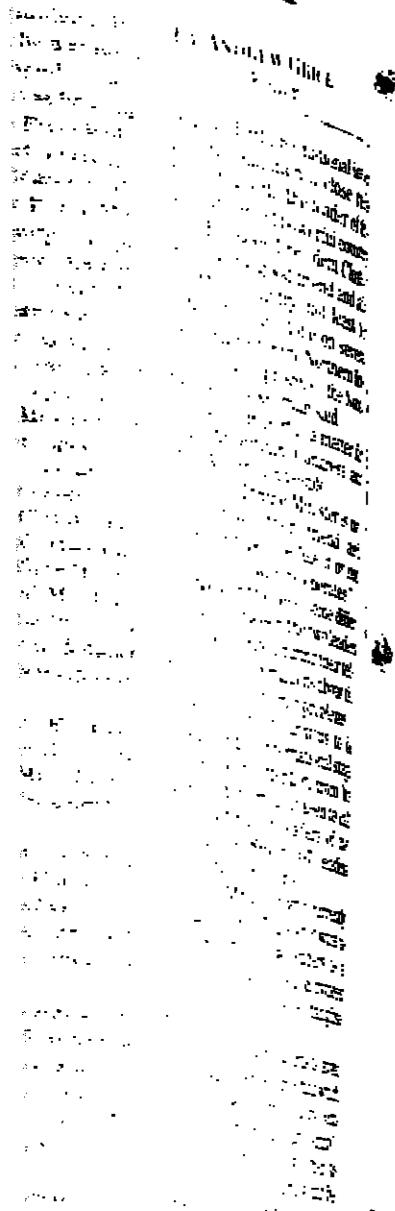
More than just a bank

Internet address: www.natwest.co.uk

Ref. No: 17745

We may monitor and record your phone calls with us in order to analyse and improve our service. *The £35 cash or BT EasyReach Pager offer applies to first year undergraduates who submit an application for a Student Account or any branch of National Westminster Bank Plc by 30 November 1998. This cash gift will not be credited into the account until we have seen proof of student status. Students can only receive either a cash gift or a BT EasyReach Pager not a combination of the two. **The minimum overdrafts amount is £1,000 for year 1, £2,500 for year 2 and £3,000 for year 3 and beyond. OVERDRAWN CREDIT is only available to persons who are 18 or over and is subject to terms and conditions. Overdraft facilities are available on request from National Westminster Bank Plc, 41 Leadenhall, London EC3P 2SP or from any branch. Overdrafts are repayable on demand.

air will
nd by
man



36 boxes'



Crises on hold as Clinton diverted

MANY GOVERNMENTS are nervously watching the drama gripping the US Presidency and its impact on the long list of world crises, actual and potential, all demanding American attention, some requiring solely American action.

Diplomats prefer to insist that the wheels of foreign policymaking in Washington continue to turn as normal, despite the hurricane unleashed by Bill Clinton's misdeeds with Monica Lewinsky. To an extent that is true, given the well-oiled machinery of American government.

"I don't think a vacuum is being felt yet," said one European diplomat. "But a lot depends on the next few days. If some compromise isn't reached soon we're bound to feel the impact."

Economically, the repercussions could affect almost every corner of the globe. True, the day-to-day levers of US financial policy are in the able hands of the Treasury Secretary, Robert Rubin, and the Federal Reserve chairman, Alan Greenspan. But US support is vital if institutions such as the International Monetary Fund are to function properly.

Mr Clinton has asked Congress for \$1.8bn to help replenish the IMF's echoing coffers. Even before the Starr report levelled possible impeachment charges against him, lawmakers were unwilling to provide more than \$4bn or so. Now even less leverage is available to an embattled President for whom even an unprecedented censure by Congress would be merciful release. But without adequate resources, the Fund will be unable to cope with new emergencies that crop up in Asia and other markets.

Political flashpoints abound. There may be no question of further immediate Western financial assistance to Russia. But Moscow has a new government headed, in Yevgeny

BY RUPERT CORNWELL

Primakov, by a prime minister whose policies in the Middle East and the Balkans run against US interests.

A deal between Israel and the Palestinians to restart the Middle East peace process seems less likely than ever. Mr Clinton is in no position to exert the US pressure on Benjamin Netanyahu that is probably essential for an agreement. The clock also ticks to next May's deadline for realisation of the Oslo accords, and a possible Palestinian declaration of independence.

With all eyes fastened on the White House, Iraq's decision yesterday to end all co-operation with UN arms inspectors, and the increasingly brutal crackdown by President Milosevic against Albanian separatists in Kosovo have gone unnoticed – if not by the State Department and the Pentagon, then by the TV news channels whose footage can prod policymakers into action.

A nuclear arms race is in progress in the Indian subcontinent, while renegade North Korea last week tested a long-range missile and may be about to renege on the 1994 agreement with the US designed to halt its nuclear weapons development programme.

In the background lurks the figure of Osama bin Laden, and the very real risk of further terrorist attacks against US targets around the world.

Up to a point all these can be dealt with by the bureaucracy – to the point of a checklist of options lying on the President's desk. But at a certain point Mr Clinton's active involvement is needed. And amid the worst crisis of his Presidency, even his famous ability to "compartmentalise" bad news and concentrate on pressing matters to hand may no longer be enough.

Market reaction, page 13

Starr puts President on couch

THE 445 pages of the Starr report are not only, in all probability, the most pornographic official document in history. They also offer an undreamt-of goldmine for the army of biographers, political scientists and amateur psychologists trying to make sense of the strange soul of William Jefferson Clinton.

The United States has produced some tortured and fascinating characters among its recent leaders, most notably Lyndon Johnson and Richard Nixon. But neither offers quite the same irresistible complexity of the 42nd President – simultaneously good 'o' boy and Yale lawyer, dazzling public policy expert and serial philanderer; interspersing irresistible charm with volcanic rages, and making friends and enemies for life in equal numbers.

Kenneth Starr merely provides more material for Clintonologists of every hue. One episode in the report's history shows the Clinton who has done wrong and can't acknowledge it to himself; that he really did so. Another depicts the Clinton-who-can't-help-it, instantly followed by Clinton the victim: "I feel like someone surrounded by an oppressive force that is creating a lie about me and I can't get the truth out," he tells one senior White

BY RUPERT CORNWELL

House aide, in an absolute reversal of what happened.

There is Clinton the charmer, persuading an entire Cabinet of his innocence. And then Friday's prayer breakfast, and a president proclaiming himself "broken in spirit but strong in heart", in one breath gaveling in the next vowing a "vigorous legal defence". What self-respecting writer can resist the challenge of unravelling all that?

Already, even before the Lewinsky theatricals, even before he has finished in the White House, dozens of books have been written about him. Some are factual biographies, some are hatchet jobs, others hagiographies. Not a few have been plain old psychobabble. But whatever else, Bill Clinton makes fantastic copy. The titles themselves tell all. *Slick Willie: Why America cannot trust Bill Clinton*, by Floyd Brown, and Elizabeth Drew's *On the Edge*.

But the last word, for now, goes to David Maraniss, author of the acclaimed Clinton biography, *First in His Class*. Writing in the Washington Post yesterday he posed the \$64,000 question. The core issue, he claims, is simple. "Should Bill Clinton be impeached for being Bill Clinton?"

PRESIDENT UNDER SIEGE

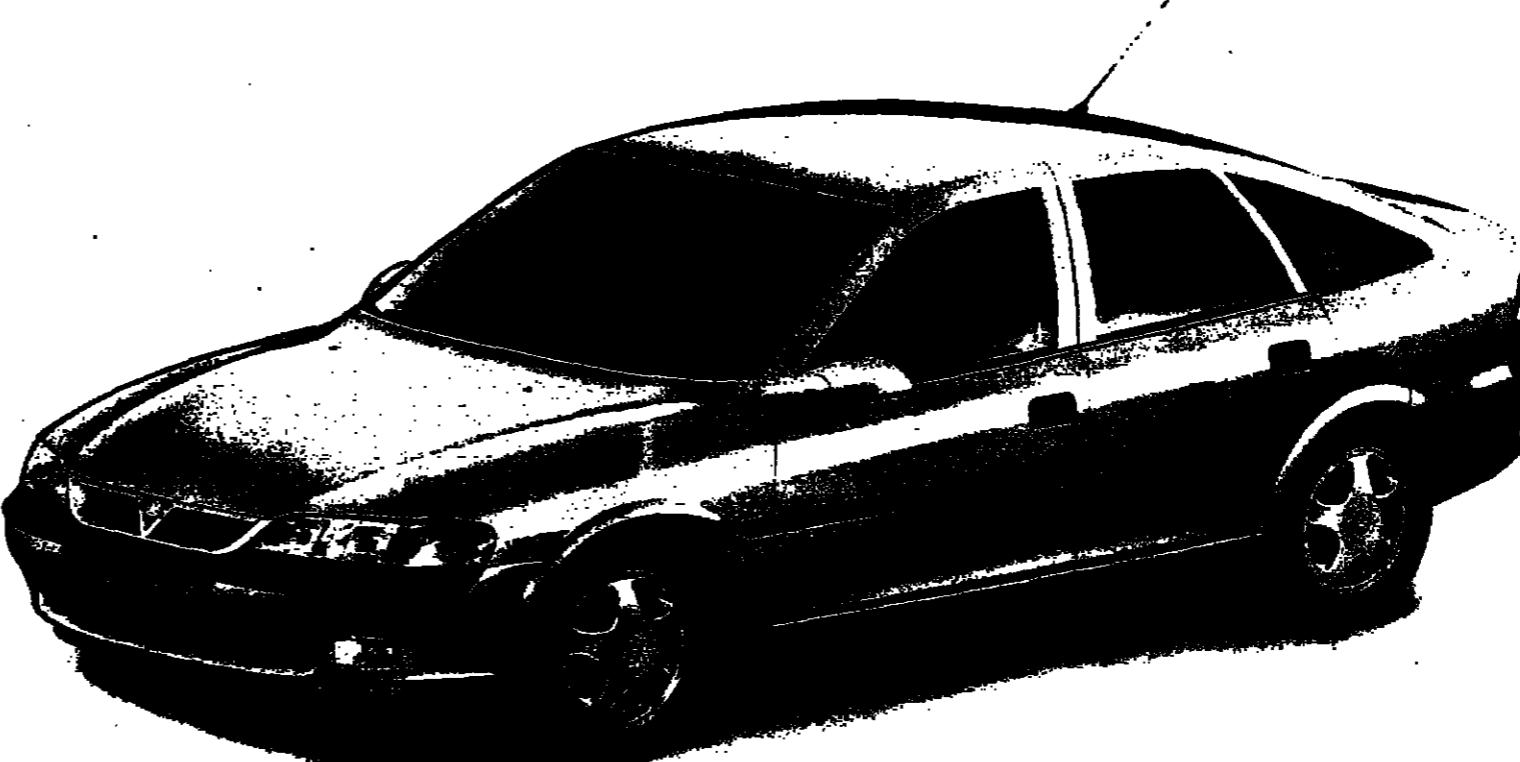
5



Protest on Park Avenue, a block from where President Clinton was giving a speech yesterday to the Council on Foreign Relations

Peter Morgan, Reuters

ARCTIC CONDITIONS YOU'LL WARM TO.



(£1,500* WORTH OF FREE EXTRAS, INCLUDING AIR-CONDITIONING, ALLOY WHEELS, METALLIC PAINT, PLUS 50:50 FINANCE OR 0% INTEREST.)

FROM £199 PER MONTH*

Not wanting to leave you out in the cold, Vauxhall are offering you the chance to pick up a Vectra Arctic packed with more goodies than your fridge. There's free air-conditioning, alloy wheels, ABS, electric front windows, front fog lamps and a full sized driver's airbag. There's even a choice of engines. 1.8 i 16v, 2.0i DI Diesel, DTi Diesel or a tundra trembling 2.5 V6. And seeing as how it's important to look cool, the Arctic is finished in premium blue, star silver metallic or polar sea blue.

All from just £14,695 with (and here's the best bit) the choice between our 50:50 or 0% interest plans. Time to put your skates on and get down to your Vauxhall dealer.

VECTRA ARCTIC

VAUXHALL



WE SELL
freephone telephone
numbers that could
increase response
rates by up to 185%.
Call us now on
07000 70 70 70
PERSONAL NUMBER
www.personal-number.co.uk

*FINANCE OFFERED ON 1.8 i 16v VECTRA AND MANUFACTURER'S OPTION PRICES. PRICE CONNECT AT THE TIME OF DOING TO PRESS AND INCLUDE VAUXHALL'S ON THE ROAD PURCHASE OF £525, 12 MONTHS ROAD FUND LICENCE £110 AND £75 PLATE REGISTRATION FEES. 3 YEARS 0% INTEREST AND 50:50 FINANCE APPLIES.
TO PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS, NON VAT REGISTERED BUSINESSES, INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL HIRE PURCHASE CUSTOMERS EXCL. FOR ARCTICS ORDERED BETWEEN 1.4.98 AND 30.9.98. TYPICAL EXAMPLE: 1.8 i 16V VECTRA ARCTIC £14,695 ON THE ROAD, DEPOSIT £7,356.81, AMOUNT OF CREDIT £7,338.81.

THE MONTHLY PAYMENTS £199, TOTAL AMOUNT PAID £14,695. APR 0%. WRITTEN QUOTATIONS FROM GBC, WEELEY HOUSE, LUTON LU1 2SE. A GUARANTEE MAY BE REQUIRED. APPLICANTS MUST BE OVER THE AGE OF 18. www.vauxhall.co.uk

FOR
MORE
DETAILS
PHONE

0 3 4 5 0 0 0 4 0 0 0 8 0 0 0

Ulster finds a new home for old foes

BY DAVID MCKITTRICK
Ireland Correspondent

THEY WERE all there yesterday for the first meeting of the new Belfast assembly in the old Stormont: the good, the bad and the ugly, those who incited violence, those who used it, and those who have suffered from it.

Yesterday they all seemed to have found a political home together in the chamber of the old Stormont parliament which was deliberately shut down in 1972 and accidentally burnt down in 1994.

The old chamber has, like some of its new members with dubious pasts, now undergone a process of rehabilitation and has reopened for what some yesterday declared to be the new politics and the new disposition for Northern Ireland.

The old issues were still there: Ulster Unionist leader David Trimble repeating his warning that Sinn Fein would not be welcome in government until the IRA was "prepared to destroy the weapons of war". But he said he would welcome those who were genuine about "crossing the bridge from terror to democracy".

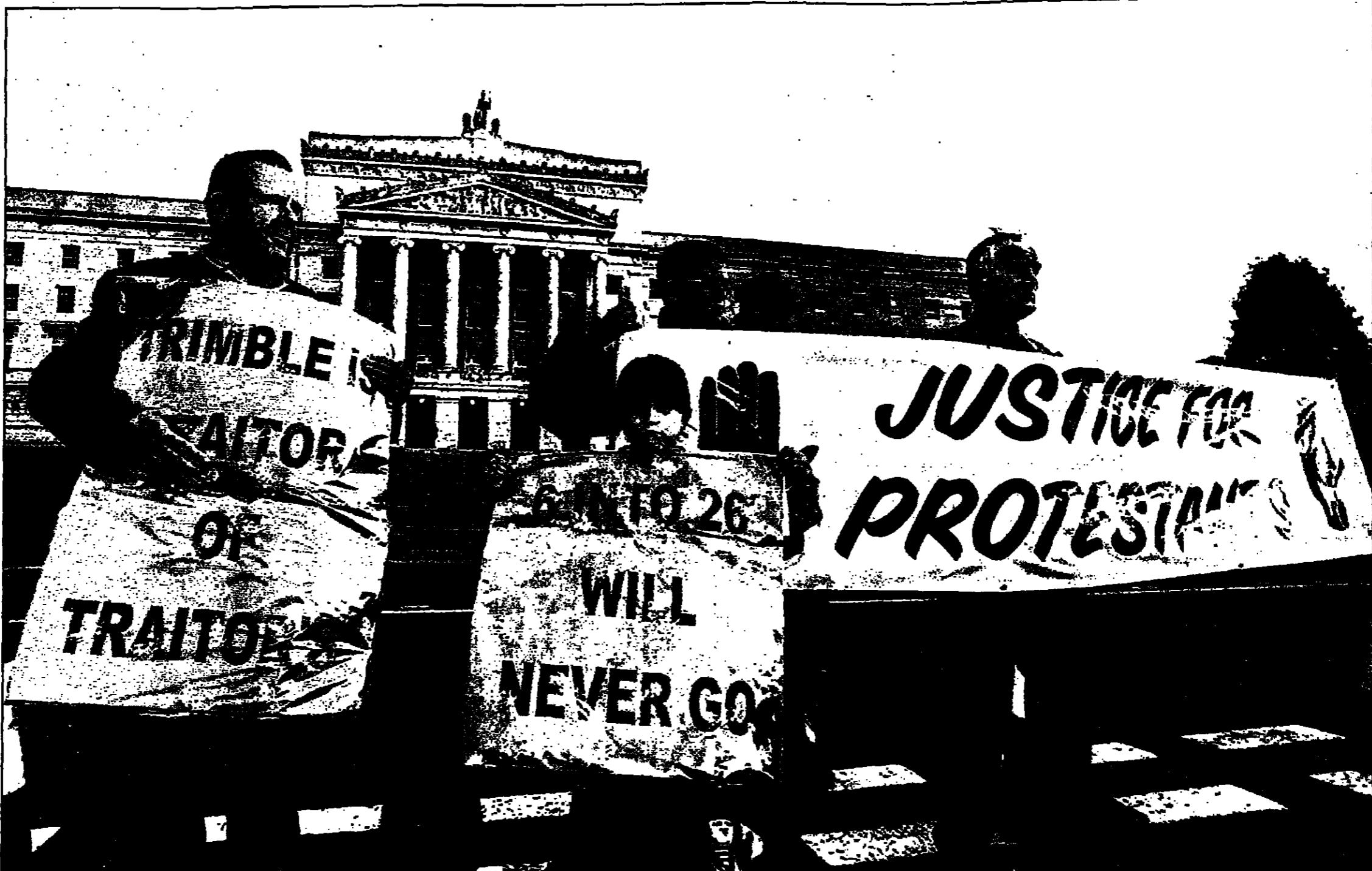
In a speech which caught something of the day's largely positive tone, he declared: "We are in the fortunate position of struggling with democratic constitutional arrangements rather than struggling with the politics of the latest atrocity."

There were, however, some bridges which looked like they would never be crossed. The Rev Ian Paisley may have sat only 15 feet away from Sinn Fein's Martin McGuinness but the inclusive philosophy of the peace process looks unlikely to pervade their relationship.

Mr Paisley denounced Gerry Adams as "the leader of IRA/Sinn Fein in this house", a Sinn Fein member retorted that some Unionists might have their own paramilitary associations.

There was also verbal swordplay on the question of the use of the Irish language in the chamber, which Mr Adams wants and Mr Paisley does not, and on the question of whether the Union Jack should fly over Stormont, where their positions are the opposite.

Most of the rhetoric about looking to the future came from Mr Trimble, who is chief min-



Members of the Justice for Protestants group outside Stormont, led by the Democratic Unionist Party's Jack McKee (right), demand a Union flag over the building. Paul Faith/Pacemaker Press

ister designate, and from his deputy, Seamus Mallon of the nationalist SDLP.

Mr Mallon, referring in friendly fashion to "David and I", said the Omagh bombing and other violence meant it had been a cruel summer, but one which had given them a greater sense of purpose to create something absolutely new.

"A new politics has begun," he said. "It's time for responsibility and commitment, for

taking responsibility for our own lives."

There was humour too, as Mr Trimble's faithful Unionist deputy, John Taylor, said they should congratulate the Northern Ireland team who had won a shooting competition at the Commonwealth Games.

"I'm glad to see Mr Adams laughing," he added jovially, "because it was with legal firearms."

The reconstructed Stormont

chamber provided a sumptuous backdrop for the new politics with its blue leather seats, gorgeous wood paneling (Spanish walnut) and stately columns topped with much gilt. Everyone gets a seat, the more prominent members having a desk as well.

After this splendid utilitarian basement canteen proved a great leveller. Men who had just been jutting their jaws at each other across the

chamber were suddenly reduced to people looking for their lunch, queuing together in uneasy proximity before dispersing to tables on a party basis.

Then it was back upstairs for more politics. The Unionists are anxious to move ahead on a number of fronts, in particular sorting out the number of departments, and thus ministers, the new administration should have. But they want to

move slowly on actually forming an executive, demanding arms decommissioning as the price of Sinn Fein entry.

Sinn Fein, however, want an executive formed as soon as possible, with their party taking two seats on it. Their urgency on this front is in contrast to decommissioning, where they want a slow-motion approach.

Mr Paisley, meanwhile, is saying he wants two executive seats. His party should run

two departments, he argues, but it would do so as free agents, not sitting down with Sinn Fein. Most other parties believe the executive should be, in Mr Mallon's words, a single, coherent, consistent body. The question of what to do with Mr Paisley has thus joined that of what to do with Sinn Fein.

New dispensation or not, nationalists and Unionists are arrayed on opposite sides of the chamber. In the middle, where the two sets of benches converge, some independents and small parties form a cordon sanitaire between the two big blocs.

Perhaps this will loosen up as time goes by, if and when this new assembly makes progress in the long, slow business of building new political arrangements and eventually new relationships and, perhaps, trust in place of the enmity of the past.

LEGAL & GENERAL FAMILY PROTECTION PLAN

life assurance?

Here's a low-cost alternative.

£53,200 of life cover for just 20p a day

Introducing low-cost term assurance from Legal & General.

Wouldn't it make sense to pay for life assurance only when you really need it? When your children are growing up, for example. Now you can, with the Legal & General Family Protection Plan.

For just 20p a day (subject to individual details), the lump sum is paid should you die during the term of the policy. For that premium,

a non-smoking man aged 30 could get £53,200 of cover for 15 years.

But the real advantage is you choose the term of the policy and the amount of cover you require or the monthly contribution that suits you.

So if you'd prefer life assurance that isn't a lifetime commitment, call 0500 33 66 66 or send for your personal, no-obligation quote today.

*Equivalent to £6.08 a month.

Minimum premium of £5.00 per month equates to 17p a day. Full written details available on request. Now and then, we may tell you about other products or services offered by the Legal & General Group of companies that we believe may be of interest to you. If you would prefer not to receive this carefully selected information, please tick the box in the coupon. Legal & General Direct is a representative only of the Legal & General marketing group, members of which are regulated by the Personal Investment Authority and FMRD for the purposes of recommending, advising on and selling life assurance and investment products bearing Legal & General's name. Legal & General Direct Limited, registered in England No. 2702080. Registered Office: Temple Court, 11 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4V 4TJ.

free £10
Interflora voucher

WHEN YOUR APPLICATION IS ACCEPTED
AND FIRST PAYMENT IS PAID

0500 33 66 66

8am - 8pm weekdays, 9am - 5pm weekends

MILAN QUOTE REFERENCE NUMBER: CPT/1248

Please send me, without obligation, an information pack on The Legal & General Family Protection Plan.

Title (Mr/Mrs/Ms) _____ Surname _____

Forename(s) _____

Address _____

Postcode _____ Date of birth _____

Tel no. home _____ Tel no. work _____

Post to Legal & General, FREEPOST (SWC0467), Cardiff CF1 1VW (no stamp required)

Further information on other Legal & General products is available on our website: www.LG.com

Call now for an instant quote

For your protection, calls are usually recorded and randomly monitored.

I do not wish to receive information on other Legal & General products.

Legal &
General
trust us to deliver

FREE

Call us now and connection to a standard telephone number will be free.
07000 70 70 70
PERSONAL NUMBER COMPANY
www.personal-number.co.uk

STAY IN TOUCH • STAY IN POCKET

NO BILLS!
SAVE £10
TEXT EXPRESS
was £59.99
NOW ONLY
£49.99
PLUS FREE NEWS BULLETINS AND
LOTTERY RESULTS

► NO CONTRACT
► NO MONTHLY BILLS EVER
► NO CONNECTION CHARGES
► JUST BUY THE PAGER

PAGEONE
MINICALL PAGERS

Pagers from £29.99 available at Argos, Comet, Currys, Dixons, John Lewis Department Stores, Maplin, Staples, Tandy, Tempo and other PageOne authorised dealers.

For further information FreeCall 0500 505 505 or visit our Website: http://www.pageone.co.uk

Danger

Scissor attack stops rapist

BY GEORGINA PATTINSON

IN BRIEF

Five die in minibus crash

FIVE PEOPLE were killed when a lorry collided head-on with a school minibus on the main Dublin to Wexford in County Wicklow in Eire yesterday. The dead included the minibus driver; a female helper, a teenage girl and two young boys. The driver of a truck was later arrested.

Record number of London tourists

THE NUMBER of people visiting London is at a record level – up 10 per cent in 1997 to 28 million – despite the strength of the pound, according to figures released yesterday. But tourists are spending less time and money there.

Tesco to sell Apple's iMac

TESCO IS to sell Apple's iMac personal computer through two of its stores, in Cardiff and Stirling, for a trial period. Tesco is Britain's first supermarket to sell computers starting with models from Fujitsu and Siemens-Nixdorf.

Jodrell Bank seeks aliens

BRITISH RADIO astronomers yesterday joined a Californian-based attempt to detect signals from outer space, using the huge dish at Jodrell Bank in Cheshire.

Doctors hail new drug for women

THE PROMISE of protection in a single pill against three of the major diseases of ageing was held out to women yesterday.

Doctors can barely contain their excitement about the drug called raloxifene, which has initially been licensed for the prevention of bone fractures in women at risk of the bone-thinning disease osteoporosis. Early trials of the drug, launched in Britain yesterday, show that it also cuts the risk of breast cancer by 52 per cent and reduces cholesterol levels to give protection against heart disease.

Experts believe that if the drug lives up to its early promise, it could become a standard treatment offered to all women after hormone replacement therapy (HRT) has got them through the immediate symptoms of the menopause. Although many years of studies lie ahead before its value is confirmed, doctors are comparing its importance to the discovery of the anti-ulcer treatments such as Zantac, which became the biggest selling drugs of all time.

Raloxifene, whose brand name is Evista, is made by Eli Lilly and costs just over £20 for a month's supply. It is the first of the selective oestrogen receptor modulators (SERMs), refined versions of HRT with a selective action that work like oestrogen in some tissues but not in others.

It is a cousin of tamoxifen, the anti-breast cancer drug, and appears to combine the benefits of tamoxifen and HRT with none of their disadvantages - thickening of the lining of the womb associated with an increased risk of endometrial cancer in the case of tamoxifen, and a slight

BY JEREMY LAURANCE
Health Editor

increase in breast cancer with long-term use of HRT.

Professor Ignac Fogelman, head of the department of nuclear medicine at Guy's Hospital, central London, and an expert on osteoporosis, said: "We have had many discussions about what type of woman raloxifene would be suitable for. We have to wait for the hard evidence. We already have the evidence in the case of spinal fractures reduced by 40 to 50 per cent and the cardiovascular evidence looks favourable. The breast cancer data is truly exciting... But it is early days."

Professor David Purdie, chairman of the British Menopause Society and head of the centre for metabolic bone disease at Hull Royal Infirmary, said: "I don't see it as a substitute for HRT. Many women who complain of symptoms such as hot flushes or night sweats will continue to need HRT."

"But for older women whose menopausal symptoms have eased - that might be the time to introduce it. It represents a major advance in protecting a woman's long-term health during her post-menopausal years."

An estimated 2 million women are affected by osteoporosis in the United Kingdom, with one-quarter of those in their sixties and half in their seventies having suffered one or more fractures. One in three hospital beds in orthopaedic departments is occupied by women with fractures caused by osteoporosis and the disease is estimated to cost the National Health Service £1bn a year.



Helen Cummings, a British nurse, with husband Tyler Cummings whom she shot dead, and (right) pregnant in a Florida court on trial for murder

Charlie Varley

Briton goes on trial for shooting husband on St Valentine's Day

IF ST VALENTINE'S is the day when the enamoured seal their love by exchanging tokens of romance, then perhaps it should also be the day when the spurned and the cheated have their say.

This, at least, will form part of the defence of Helen Cummings, a British woman aged 33 whose trial for the murder of her American husband began yesterday in Florida.

Mrs Cummings, a nurse and mother of a year-old boy, was arrested on 14 February after she rang the police, allegedly distraught and sobbing: "Oh my God, what have I done?"

Police say she had fired several rounds into her husband Tyler, three years her junior, with a .357 Magnum revolver

as he lay on their marital bed. Mrs Cummings, they said, had become enraged after finding pictures of her husband naked with another woman while looking through his car.

If she is found guilty of second-degree murder (equivalent to manslaughter in the UK), Mrs Cummings faces up to 25 years in prison.

She has not denied killing her husband, and her lawyer, Warner Olds, has painted a picture of a three-year marriage blighted by domestic violence, threats, fear and frustration in which finding the damning pictures was the last straw.

Mr Olds, a loquacious public defender, has remained positive

throughout the past seven months, and says he will prove Mrs Cummings was a victim of battered wives' syndrome and post-natal depression.

He calls her a "pussycat" and says she was provoked constantly through physical threats and his repeated infidelity. "What she saw would make any person's blood boil and the prosecution have acknowledged there was no premeditation."

The couple met at the Holy Cross Hospital in Fort Lauderdale, where they both worked as nurses, and married in 1995 after Tyler divorced his first wife. Her late husband's family said they would not seek the death penalty even if she were charged with first-degree mur-

der; pointing out it would mean the couple's children would become orphans.

Although the trial formally began yesterday, the first few days will be filled by the process of jury selection, with a specialist "selector" sifting through prospective jurors with questions about domestic violence.

Mrs Cummings' brother, Dean Billington, has been in America to support her for most of the past few months; the Cummings' son, Terry, is staying with her parents in Lancashire. A few weeks after her husband's death, while in prison, she found out she was pregnant with their second child.

The nurse's arrest and

imprisonment on remand initially resulted in a flurry of features in the British tabloid press; a Briton had shot an American in a state where things normally were the other way round.

In Florida, a state of sunshine, swamps and obvious inequality between the inbound tourists and the local underclasses, the killing was so routine that the state's main newspaper, the *Miami Herald*, has virtually ignored it.

A news editor on the paper said yesterday: "There's a lot of murders here, and some of them we hardly get to cover."

But the domestic coverage of this St Valentine's Day killing has shown considerable charity to a woman who, by her own admission, shot her unarmed husband in the buttocks, chest, stomach and arm with a powerful handgun, killing him instantly.

One interview, in jail, portrayed her studying the Bible and worrying about who would look after her son; another, when she was released on bail, had her relaxing at her villa in North Lauderdale and worrying if she could ever get back her job at the hospital.

Perhaps not entirely irrelevant is that Mrs Cummings is white and British, and her husband was black and foreign, and the killing happened in a state where in June, a British tourist was raped by a black man in her hotel room while her husband was present.

Dangerous paedophile, 65, is smuggled to freedom

A DANGEROUS paedophile, who threatened to return to a village where he carried out a campaign of sexual attacks on children for more than 30 years, was smuggled out of prison yesterday and taken to a secret address.

Rhys Hughes, 65, has agreed to move to accommodation out-

side the village after being warned he might face vigilante attacks if he went home.

Hughes, who served six years of a 10-year sentence for raping and assaulting children, had refused treatment in prison

since his 1992 conviction. The *Independent* revealed last month that his prospective return had struck fear into residents of his former home village of Sonning Common, south Oxfordshire. One of his victims, who was four at the time of the attack, is now in her teens and still lives there.

Michael Biddulph, spokesman for Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire probation service said: "What we have been able to show him is that it is just not on to go back. We have got him to understand the situation in the village."

Because Hughes was sentenced before the Criminal Jus-

tice Act 1991 became law, he is free to come and go as he pleases. He will not be living in secure accommodation, although he will be under the supervision of officials and will have to keep police informed of his movements under the terms of the Sex Offenders Register. In case he later

changes his mind and returns to Sonning Common, Thames Valley police are keeping a series of security measures designed to protect children.

These include a network of Sonning Common-based safe houses, set up in for children to run to if they feel in danger.

Police will also visit schools

to advise pupils of the dangers and the measures they should use to avoid harm.

Philip Marples, head teacher of Sonning Common Primary School, said the atmosphere in the village was now calm. "Some people have spoken to their children about the Hughes threat and some

people did not," he said. "They felt that if he is not coming back there was no point in alarming their children about it."

Other freed paedophiles, including notorious child killers Robert Oliver and Sidney Cooke, have agreed to be locked up to protect them from mob fury.



TO EXPERIENCE THE DRIVE OF THE PEUGEOT 406, SIMPLY RUN YOUR FINGERS OVER THIS STRETCH OF ROAD.

PEUGEOT

THE DRIVE OF YOUR LIFE

AT IN POCKET
AMC 10
NOT ONLY
299
PAGERS

Prescott rejects job-loss claims

BY BARRIE CLEMENT AND PAUL WAUGH

JOHN PRESCOTT slapped down union leaders yesterday for blaming job losses on government policy. The Deputy Prime Minister acknowledged that "life is not easy" in some parts of manufacturing, but dismissed assertions that it was all caused by high interest rates.

He told TUC delegates that union officials should stop talking Britain into a recession. In particular, he took issue with comments by Ken Jackson, general secretary of the Amalgamated Engineering and Electrical Union, who said the economy was "within hours" of diving into recession.

The Government was determined to keep to its strate-

cabinet colleagues to use regional development agency taskforces to come to the rescue of firms such as the electronics group Philips, which has warned that 3,000 jobs are under threat at its plant in the United Kingdom.

However, an unrepentant Mr Jackson reiterated his warnings that the British economy was "staring recession in the face".

The engineering union leader said: "The economic hurricane reaching our shores from the Far East is being compounded by the strong pound and by high interest rates." Both employers and unions were united in their assessment that the UK was threatened with a severe economic downturn.

In his address to the conference Mr Prescott had made a "damn good start". He said that the recent "Fairness at work" White Paper was a big advance for social justice, although it did not grant unions or employers everything they wanted.

His praise for the document is thought to be an attempt to ensure that Peter Mandelson, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, will resist employers' demands that it should be watered down.

Bill Morris, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, later told delegates that they should fight vigorously against moves by the CBI to keep a ceiling on unfair-dismissal awards and block automatic recognition where a majority of workers belong to a union.

Mr Morris said: "Let me sound a note of warning. Be on your guard. There is a back door to Number 10 and there is a back door into the Department of Trade and Industry. The employers will use those back doors to get the White Paper watered down."

Mr Prescott said the electronics factories had been hit by the collapse of microchip prices from £30 to £1.30 and problems in the Japanese and other Asian economies. Similar plants had closed in Silicon Valley in the US, in Ireland and on the Continent. "They are nothing to do with the British pound or interest rates."

Mr Prescott said the Government was working to create a quick-response team to help manufacturers at the first sign of job losses. The Deputy Prime Minister had held talks with



Neville Lawrence chokes back tears as he thanks unions for supporting his fight for justice after his son's murder

John Voos

Lawrence killers will never be brought to justice, says father

BY PAUL WAUGH
Political Correspondent

THE KILLERS of the murdered teenager Stephen Lawrence are not likely to be jailed for the crime, his father Neville told the conference.

In a deeply emotional speech that left many delegates in tears, Mr Lawrence thanked the TUC for its support throughout his family's campaign for justice in the face of indifference from police, John Edmunds presented him with a £1,000 cheque.

Mr Lawrence described his anger after the murder and the way police treated his family, "like animals", and said local trade unionists were the first to support his fight for truth.

Mr Lawrence said that even with the strong help of the unions, it took the intervention of President Nelson Mandela of South Africa to get the campaign the attention it deserved.

He said that his family's campaign was a "worthwhile fight" for all Britain's children, not just black children, and he would not be "fobbed off" by anyone. He said all parents "had to stop your breath" every time their child walked out the door. Even now, five years on, "I still think my son is coming through that door".

Stephen was stabbed by a gang of white youths in Eltham but police said there was insufficient evidence to bring a prosecution. A private prosecution brought by his parents collapsed two years ago.

A new inquiry was conducted earlier this year to explore allegations that police racism contributed to delays in the murder investigation and failure to secure a prosecution.

The inquiry, which was chaired by Sir William Macpherson and took 10,000 pages of evidence, with 88 witnesses, will reconvene for final legal submissions later this month.

In an earlier address to the

congress yesterday, Cheryl Carolus, high commissioner of South Africa, offered her government's continuing support for the Stephen Lawrence Family Campaign, but warned that governments of all nations faced an increasing tide of racism unless they tackled the poverty and lack of opportunity that often gave rise to it.

Ms Carolus said: "The murderer of Stephen Lawrence can go on unchanged. We know that racism is alive and well in Britain, that racism and xenophobia is alive and well in the world today, including still in South Africa. We can stop it."

She praised the bravery of Mr Lawrence and his wife Doreen, and said it was clear that every time they had to speak about the case they felt the death of their son yet another time.

"I want to salute them for their bravery, which sometimes

is completely unrecognised." Ms Carolus also praised the clear direction given by the Home Secretary, Jack Straw, that such racist murders were totally unacceptable and that every effort would be made to find the perpetrators.

But the TUC's race relations committee chairman, Bob Purkiss, warned the conference that the trade union movement should not rest on its laurels.

"I am proud of what unions do. We have taken a lead and we have taken a stand. But I have to say to you - it's not enough. We still haven't got the black union officers to reflect the membership."

"Many black trade unionists are now saying that trade union action has reached a plateau. That unions are not willing to take the next steps and that trade unions are still male, stale and pale" he said.

IN BRIEF

Energy supplier under attack

UNION ENERGY, the TUC's own energy supply company, was attacked by Unison, the Fire Brigade Union and the National Union of Journalists as an example of "collusion" with the privatised electricity company. However, the company, which works with Scottish Power to offer cut-price energy to 5 million union members, shrugged off the criticism and announced that it was marking deregulation of the domestic electricity market with a pledge to give customers the first single bill for gas and electricity.

GCHQ ends 15 years absence

CAROLINE CORNELL yesterday became the first government communication headquarters (GCHQ) delegate at the TUC conference for 15 years. She told delegates: "It has finally been recognised that staff at GCHQ have no conflict of loyalties. We can do a sensitive job on behalf of this country and still be active members of a national trade union. Individual employment rights ... have now been restored." Unions were banned from the Cheltenham centre after the then Tory government alleged intelligence work had been disrupted by industrial action.

Today's business

- Debates on pensions, health and safety, arts and sport.
- David Blunkett, Secretary of State for Education and Employment, gives speech on government's life-long learning initiative.
- Debate on national minimum wage, including address by Professor George Bain, chairman of the Low Pay Commission.
- Ian McCartney, Trade and Industry Minister, addresses fairness at work fringe meeting.
- Clare Short, Secretary of State for International Development, speaks at fringe meeting to celebrate 50th anniversary of Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
- Eddie George gives first speech to the TUC by a governor of the Bank of England.

"I'VE CHANGED MY MIND ABOUT GIVING TO CHARITY!"

CharityCard.org

I've recently discovered a new way of giving to charity - new to me, anyway. It means all the causes you support can have extra money. It's the CharityCard.

First you decide how much you want to give to charity. You pay that money into your own CharityCard account. You can open an account with as little as £10 a month or with a one-off sum of £250. Then the tax man adds more to it. This means you have what you've already put in, plus an extra 23% to give away! Now, that's what I call a good idea!

YOUR PERSONAL CHOICE OF CHARITIES

You can use the CharityCard for making personal donations over the phone or by post. You'll also receive a special Charity "Chequebook" and you can even arrange standing orders for regular gifts. And with the CharityCard you can now give online too, why not take a look at www.charitycard.org.

Who you give to, how much you give and when you do it are all entirely up to you. You can make donations to absolutely any charity you choose, big or small.

TIME TO CHANGE YOUR MIND?

Isn't it time you changed your mind about giving to charity? Call free now or use the coupon provided.

Clive Anderson

The CharityCard comes from the Charities Aid Foundation itself a charity, established in 1921. Registered charity no. 20639. Patron HRH The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh KC KT.

**"FIND OUT MORE, CALL FREE
0800 99 33 11, DO IT TODAY!"**

Please send me more information about the CharityCard™
Mr/Mrs/Ms _____ Initials _____
Surname _____
Address _____
Postcode _____ Tel No. _____
Please send this completed coupon to:
CharityCard, PO Box 1025, Stratford Upon Avon CV37 5GH

CAF

**Personal loan rates
from 10.1% APR.
Call Direct Line.**

- Why pay more for a personal loan when as the table shows, you can get a low rate from us?
- You'll have fixed, low monthly payments throughout the term of the loan.
- No arrangement fee or complicated paper work.
- No security or deposit required.
- Call now for an instant decision on loans from £1,000 to £25,000.

EXAMPLE - LOANS OVER 12 MONTHS WITHOUT REPAYMENT PROTECTION				
LENDER	AMOUNT OF LOAN	APR	40 MONTHLY REPAYMENTS	TOTAL PAYABLE
DIRECT LINE	£4,000	13.4%	£98.44	£5,479.40
	£10,000	11.4%	£217.50	£11,862.00
	£16,000	10.1%	£337.49	£13,524.00
BARCLAYS	£4,000	17.0%	£91.37	£5,372.00
	£10,000	15.0%	£228.00	£11,280.00
	£16,000	Max available		
LLOYDS	£4,000	16.9%	£94.48	£5,890.00
	£10,000	13.8%	£227.75	£13,477.00
	£16,000	13.8%	£364.75	£11,862.00
ABSEY NATIONAL	£4,000	16.3%	£93.37	£5,372.00
	£10,000	13.4%	£225.70	£11,542.00
	£16,000	Max available		

APR correct at 1st September 1998. Source: Moneyline.

0181 680 9966 0161 831 9966 0141 248 9966

LONDON MANCHESTER GLASGOW

CALL ANYTIME 8am to 8pm Monday to Friday and 9am to 5pm Saturday.

www.directline.co.uk/home

Direct Line Financial Services Limited, 250 St. Vincent Street, Glasgow, G2 5SH.



DIRECT LINE

PERSONAL LOANS

Health insurance.

From 48p a day.

Call 0800 77 99 55

to find out more.

Prime Health

A member of the Standard Life Group

Ref: M11896NG

Hit-list threat to firms that ban unions

BY BARRIE CLEMENT
Labour Editor

ONE OF Britain's biggest unions has drawn up a hit-list of companies with "bad bosses" where workers will be offered six months' free membership.

Bill Morris, leader of the Transport and General Workers' Union, said directors at the selected firms would be offered "one last chance" to allow their employees to join his organisation before they would be "named and shamed".

Mr Morris said management at the companies concerned had engaged in tactics that frustrated the right of working people to join the union - something that was unlawful under existing legislation.

However, the initiative was also seeking to take advantage of a law on union recognition that would come into force next year. The companies on the list have either withdrawn union recognition or have refused to bargain with the T&G despite a large membership.

To boost the recruitment process, Mr Morris said his union would forgo subscriptions for six months. "We are determined that the full benefit of trade unionism goes to all who want to be members. We are determined that there will be no union-free workplace in Britain."

The recent "Fairness at Work" White Paper proposes awarding recognition to unions where the employees vote for it or where they can prove they have half the workforce in membership.

In anticipation of the law ADT, the security alarm company, has agreed to allow a ballot of its 1,800 technicians to discover whether they want the Amalgamated Engineering and Electrical Union recognised.

Ken Jackson, leader of the union, said the AEEU had been recognised for more than 20 years at Thorn Security, one of the companies involved in a merger that formed ADT. "We are keen to work in a productive partnership with the company in the interests of our members and the company as a whole," Mr Jackson said.

The Manufacturing Science, Finance union is also organising a recognition ballot among 400 employees at Machine Mart, a plant hire company with 24 depots around the country.

The moves follow a challenge from Ian McCartney, Trade minister, to stop "whingeing" about the White Paper and go out and recruit members.

d foes

RIVAL SUITORS FOR ENGLAND'S TOP FOOTBALL CLUBS								
COMPANY	SONY	CANAL+	The Interpublic Group of Companies, Inc.	GRANADA	TIME WARNER	CABLE & WIRELESS	UNITED news & media	CARLTON
POSSIBLE TARGET	Newcastle United	French satellite broadcaster	US advertising giant	Television and hotels group	US media giant	The UK's largest cable operator	Television and newspaper owner	Television, film libraries, video reproduction
OFFICIAL COMMENT	"We never comment on speculation or rumour"	Not available	Manchester United	Manchester United, Liverpool, Leeds United	Manchester United, Tottenham Hotspur	Aston Villa	Tottenham Hotspur	Arsenal
WHAT'S THE GAIN?	One of the sponsors of the Premier League. Little else to comment a bid.	Controls rights to show Premier League matches overseas. Already owns Paris St Germain Football team in France. Wants to stop Rupert Murdoch expanding into continental Europe.	Interpublic is expanding aggressively in sports promotion and sponsorship. Frank Lowe, a director of the group, is a Manchester United fan. However, it is hard to see what the company could do to improve Manchester United's marketing operation.	Looked at buying Man Utd several years ago and is shareholder - with BSkyB - in the club's cable TV channel. Needs programming to win subscribers for ONdigital, the digital television operator in which it has a 50 per cent stake.	Already uses its extensive sports interests, which include the Atlanta Braves, to push its cable television subsidiaries. Vice-chairman Ted Turner, who founded TV news channel CNN, is keen to prevent Rupert Murdoch from expanding his empire.	Could use its cable franchises, which include the Birmingham area, to screen pay-per-view matches. However, CWC is keen to upgrade its network and expand its customer base before it moves into supplying its own programming.	United News, which is run by Lord Hollick, is part of the consortium whose £80m bid for Spurs was rejected by Alan Sugar. It could screen games through SDN, the digital television operator in which United has a stake.	Carlton was beaten by BSkyB during the last bidding war for Premier League rights. Like Granada it needs programming to attract subscribers to ONdigital, its digital broadcasting joint venture.

Sugar rejects £80m offer for Spurs

TAKEOVER SPECULATION continued to swirl around British football clubs yesterday as Tottenham Hotspur confirmed that it had rejected an offer valuing it at about £80m.

The news came as Sheffield United, the First Division club, announced that it was in talks with a number of individuals who were interested in taking a stake in the club.

However, hopes of a bidding war over Manchester United began to fade after the mystery bidder who has asked a United States investment bank to investigate topping British Sky Broadcasting's £625m bid failed to break cover.

In an official statement to the Stock Exchange, Tottenham Hotspur said Alan Sugar, the chairman, had rejected an offer for his 40.88 per cent stake in the club from English National Investment Company, the financial group.

BY PETER THAL LARSEN

Mr Sugar had approached ENIC about buying his shareholding for 80p a share - putting a value of more than £80m on the club. However, when BSkyB tabled its bid for Manchester United last week he decided that the club was worth more and decided to reject the bid. Tottenham shares closed up 13p at 85p.

Sources at ENIC said the company had been "days away" from completing a successful bid. The company is now expected to wait until the takeover speculation has died down before making another attempt.

"We really want to get Tottenham back to where it belongs," the source said. "We're in the long-term investing game now."

ENIC has the support of United News & Media, owners



Arsenal, Leeds United, Manchester United and Tottenham Hotspur are four of the main clubs in play

of the Express newspaper titles, and the US media giant Time Warner. It already owns 25 per cent of Glasgow Rangers and has stakes in clubs including Slavia Prague and AEK Athens.

The news came on the day when the City was gripped by intense speculation about the identity of a mystery bidder who

is considering a counter-bid for Manchester United.

Salomon Brothers, the US investment bank, confirmed over the weekend that it had been asked to speak to HSBC, Manchester United's financial advisers, about the possibility of making an offer.

Interpublic, the US advertising group, was one of the

names in the frame. Industry

rumours suggested that Frank Lowe, a director of the group who also runs the Lowe Howard Spink agency, was keen to mount a bid. However, although the company refused to comment, insiders played down the rumours.

Other possible bidders include Time Warner, the US

media giant, and the television group Granada.

However, sources close to Manchester United played down the prospect of the bid materialising, pointing out that the new bidder was planning to

comment, insiders played down the rumours.

Other possible bidders include Time Warner, the US

said. Although Manchester United's board would be legally obliged to consider any serious bid that improved on BSkyB's, the club is expecting to continue recommending the broadcaster's offer.

Sheffield United yesterday joined in the frenzy by confirming that its chairman and major shareholder, Mike McDonald, had started "preliminary discussions with a number of individuals" who were interested in investing in the club.

However, Sony, the electronics group, refused to comment on reports that it was lining up a £220m bid for Newcastle United.

John Bridgeman, Director-General of Fair Trading, yesterday officially invited comments on BSkyB's offer for Manchester United. The OFT will take submissions on the bid until 28 September before deciding whether the bid

should be referred to Monopolies and Mergers Commission. The final decision rests with Peter Mandelson, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, who will receive the OFT's advice by 12 October.

Meanwhile Roger Taylor, the former drummer with the rock group Queen, emerged as the mystery benefactor who has donated £10,000 to the Independent Manchester United Supporters' Association to help to fund its campaign against the BSkyB bid.

A group of Manchester United shareholders, led by Michael Crick, the TV presenter, are also lobbying against the deal. Mr Crick said the group had approached Richard Branson of Virgin for advice on its campaign. "We wrote to Branson asking him to give advice on how a bid might be structured that would protect the interests of the fans," he said.



Littlejohn: Club supporter

Arch-critic Littlejohn aims to take control

RICHARD LITTLEJOHN, the controversial broadcaster and columnist, is heading a consortium of wealthy Tottenham Hotspur supporters that wants to buy a controlling interest in the club from the chairman, Alan Sugar.

The consortium has been in talks with Mr Sugar for more than six months and is understood to have told him to name his price for a 29.9 per cent stake

BY NICK HARRIS

in the north London football club. Mr Sugar was thought to have valued his stake at between £70m and £80m, but it is understood that in the light of Sky's £625m offer for Manchester United he may now be holding out for offers that would value his share at more than £100m.

Mr Sugar owns 40.88 per cent in total and if a deal with

Mr Littlejohn's consortium were to go through, the remainder of his stake would be passed to his son, Daniel.

The consortium wants to buy 29.9 per cent to give it a holding large enough to influence decision-making and block aggressive takeovers. It does not want a stake of 30 per cent or higher as it would be legally obliged to make an offer for the whole club, something

it neither wants nor can afford.

The consortium has yet to receive a response from Mr Sugar, but Mr Littlejohn said yesterday: "Our offer is still on the table."

Tottenham yesterday turned down a bid for the club from the leisure group, Enic, which had valued the club at 80p per share, or about £80m in total. Shares were trading at 85p each yesterday. Enic owns a host of European clubs, has a stake in Glasgow Rangers and is known to want to extend its interests with a move into the Premiership.

Mr Littlejohn's main employer, ironically, is Rupert Murdoch, on whose Sky television network his chat show is screened and in whose Sun newspaper he writes a column twice a week.

Mr Littlejohn was originally approached by a group of wealthy Tottenham supporters to head a proposed purchase of Mr Sugar's shares. It now seems likely that Mr Sugar will ignore them and wait for a much improved offer for the club.

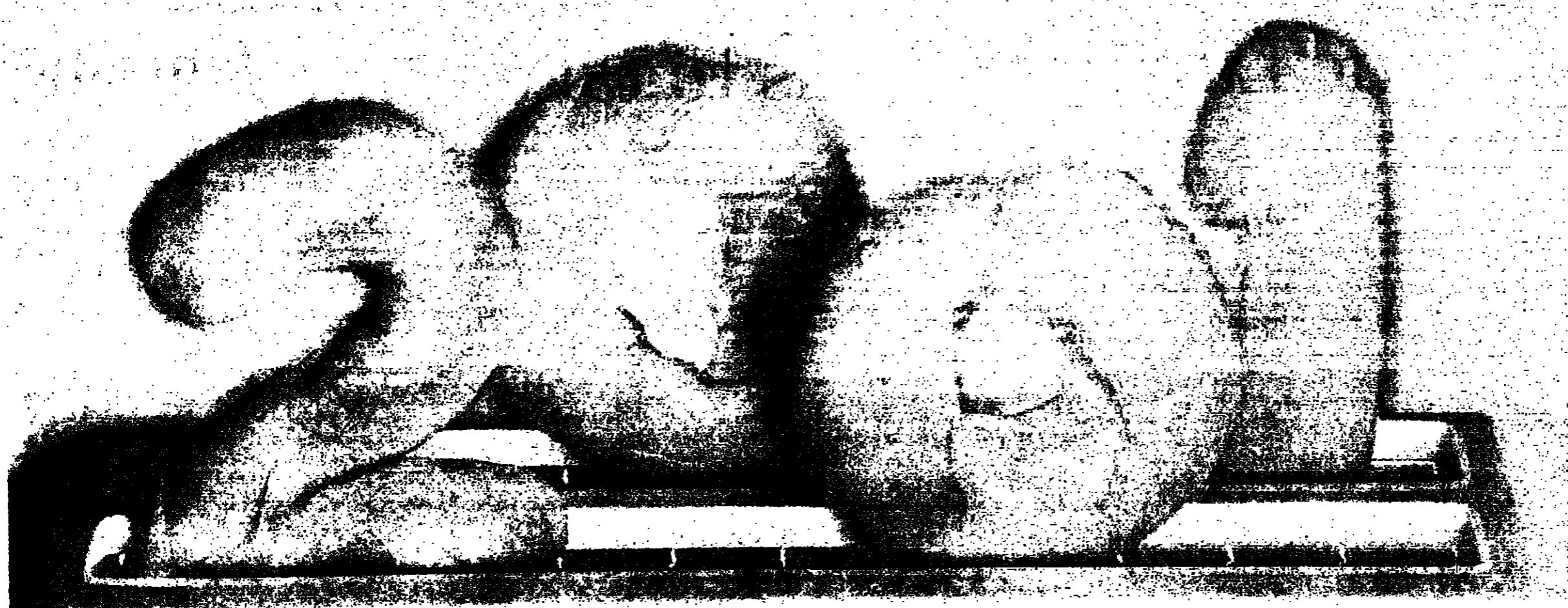
Tottenham supporters fed up with constant games in the boardroom and all the uncertainty is clearly having an effect on the performance of the team."

PEUGEOT 406

TO HEAR WHAT THE PEUGEOT 406 SOUNDS LIKE, PLACE YOUR EAR NEXT TO THIS ENGINE.

PEUGEOT
THE DRIVE OF YOUR LIFE

BRITISH GAS GUARANTEES CHEAPER ELECTRICITY UNTIL



When we supply you with electricity, we'll guarantee cheaper prices than your local supplier until 2001.

KEEPING PRICES ON LOW.

TO APPLY CALL 0845 604 2001. **British Gas**
Home Energy

Surgeon 'covered up his mistakes'

A GYNAECOLOGIST was accused yesterday of removing a woman's ovaries without her permission weeks after telling her that the organs were healthy.

Consultant surgeon Rodney Ledward, 58, of Folkestone, Kent, allegedly performed a hysterectomy on his 48-year-old patient when her condition had in fact been approaching a state of clinical shock.

Mr Ledward, who has 33 years' medical experience, is accused of a catalogue of misdemeanours concerning the cases of 14 patients over seven

years at the William Harvey NHS Hospital at Ashford, Kent, and private hospitals in the county.

The hearing of the GMC's professional conduct committee was told that Mr Ledward also faces claims that he tried to profit from his NHS patients by persuading them to opt for private treatment at a private hospital where he was employed part-time.

Lawyers for the GMC said Mr Ledward had told his 48-year-old patient that her

ovaries were still ovulating and healthy five weeks before she underwent the hysterectomy at a private hospital in November 1992. But while the woman, who wishes to remain anonymous, was having surgery, Mr Ledward removed the organs without having earlier sought her consent.

After the operation, Mr Ledward left the hospital and the patient was removed to a post-operative care room where her condition rapidly deteriorated as she suffered massive blood loss through inadequate stitching to the points where her womb had been removed.

James Badenoch, QC, for the GMC, told the hearing: "Her condition was approaching haemorrhagic shock. She was obviously losing blood and losing a lot of it."

While nurses monitored the woman's condition, senior doctors and administrative staff tried to contact Mr Ledward by leaving messages at his London and Folkestone homes. Eventually contact was made, and

Mr Ledward carried out a second operation at 11pm, some nine hours after the original procedure. During the second operation it was found that "in excess" of two litres of blood had leaked into the patient's stomach and abdomen.

The hearing was told that the gynaecologist, who also worked as an obstetrician, later wrote a letter to his patient's doctor in which he failed to make any mention of the post-operative complications.

Mr Badenoch said: "To de-

scribe the operation after this terrible post-operative course of events as 'uncomplicated' was at the very best a serious gloss on the truth, and at worst totally misleading. With regard to the removal of the ovaries, I need say no more than that it was obviously inexcusable to do that."

Mr Badenoch outlined four categories under which the surgeon's misdemeanours could be gathered: clinical and surgical incompetence, inappropriate delegation to junior

doctors, lack of involvement when his patients developed complications and dishonesty in search of personal gain. In two cases it is alleged that Mr Ledward sought to persuade patients that they could receive certain treatment only at a private hospital.

Mr Ledward denies failing to obtain his patient's consent for the removal of her ovaries. He also denies causing the bleeding and making misleading statements to her GP.

The hearing continues today.

March of time defeats the Royal Tournament

THE ROYAL Tournament, a venerable institution for 113 years but declining in popularity for the past decade, is to be scrapped, it was announced yesterday. The military spectacle has come to seem by the Government and service chiefs as old-fashioned, anachronistic and failing to reflect the role of the armed forces in the modern world.

Instead, the new millennium is expected to see a new-style, hi-tech show, using the latest stage technology, and sited away from its traditional venue at Earl's Court, west London. The Millennium Dome, in Greenwich, has not been ruled out as a possible venue.

The Ministry of Defence's decision received a mixed reaction from servicemen's organisations. The Royal British Legion said it was "disappointed" that the tournament would not continue in its present form". But it added that, as an organisation it looked forward to the future, and awaited "eager anticipation" to see how the show developed.

An official of the Burma Star Association of veterans said the development was not surprising. He added: "This appears to be the way of the world. I am afraid. There are changes being carried out for the sake of changes, or because some consultant or other asks for it. I thought this was something which cut across age barriers."

Some of the proceeds from the tournament go towards supporting service charities. The RAF Benevolent Fund said it was saddened by the decision

to change the format, and General Mike Regan, controller of the Army Benevolent Fund, said he hoped the contribution to charities would continue in the future.

Previous attempts to modernise the tournament have failed and come under attack from a variety of quarters. London Weekend Television, which won the rights of the event from the BBC, tried to make it more appealing to younger spectators by introducing TV's *Gladiators* into the show, a move attacked as tacky. An appearance by a Japanese marching band was criticised by some war veterans.

Announcing his decision yesterday, George Robertson, Secretary of State for Defence, said: "The Royal Tournament has served us well for a great many years, but as we approach the millennium it is timely for us to take a fresh look at this traditional event."

"This is a new beginning, not an end, of the tournament and my aim is to make it more modern and relevant whilst retaining an element of pageantry." The Queen and the tournament organisers have been informed of the plans. A one-off show is expected to be staged in the year 2000, and the new-look production may include an open-air pageant.

The Grand Military Tournament and Assault at Arms, as it was first known, was started in 1880 by the Duke of Cambridge as a skill-at-arms event for the Army, with money raised for military charities.



Claude Picasso (left) with one of his father's pieces, 'Musketeer', going on display in London with other works including 'Owl and Head of a Faun' (right)

AFP, AP

Picasso's feats of clay shine in light fantastic

AS FAR AS Sophie Hicks, the arch-minimalist, is concerned, her design for the new Picasso ceramics show at the Royal Academy is verging on the fussy.

"This is more than I have ever done before for an exhibition," she said, amazed at herself.

In truth, the look she has given the high-ceilinged rooms at the gallery in Piccadilly, central London, is almost entirely pared down. The colourful pots,

BY VANESSA THORPE

bows and figures that Pablo Picasso fashioned or painted, or both, in Vallauris, southern France, in the late Forties and early Fifties are displayed on long slabs of concrete. The slabs are at table height and deliberately have the appearance of stone.

Ms Hicks intends them to echo the shape and the solidity of the kind of ancient tables

and platforms used in religious worship. "At first, we wanted the pots to appear to just float in the rooms in some way," she said, "but then we realised the galleries were too big for that. The work would just be lost."

Ms Hicks, the former fashion editor of *Vogue* magazine, who became an architect and then worked with the clothes designer Paul Smith on his impossible-to-tidy Westbourne House emporium in west Lon-

don, has been working on the Picasso exhibition since February. This is not her first collaboration with the academy, however: she was also the architect on "Sensation", last year's phenomenally successful exhibition of Charles Saatchi's collection of contemporary work by young British artists.

"My work for the Picasso is not at all the same as with 'Sensation', where I tried to get the maximum contrast with the

decor of this building as possible, even to the extent of removing modern signs and fittings," she recalled. "With that exhibition, I felt some of the modern works actually looked better here than they had in the modern galleries."

With Picasso's ceramics her approach was to allow the work to look very real and touchable. "I wanted a very flat light, a neon light and I don't mind the fittings showing at all."

"It is very different to working on a shop, where you are trying to make things look precious. These pots are precious and so you want to make their surroundings as basic as possible." After this exhibition, Ms Hicks plans to leave the fine-art world for a while and work on the construction of a new hotel in Argentina.

The exhibition Picasso, Painter and Sculptor in Clay runs from 17 September to 16 December



TO SENSE THE FEELING OF SPACE IN A PEUGEOT 406, FIND AN EMPTY ROOM AND HOLD THIS AT ARM'S LENGTH. PEUGEOT

THE DRIVE OF YOUR LIFE



JAVICCO LTD

THE INFECTION
HAS BEGUN



SOMEONE MUST FIGHT BACK

ULTRAVIOLET

TONIGHT AT 10.00PM

4

Cabinet split on homes buy-back

A PLAN to buy back council houses could bring the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Deputy Prime Minister into direct conflict.

The recent comprehensive spending review completed by Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, has set councils the task of raising £2.75bn a year through asset sales.

But proposals from the Department of Environment, Transport and the Regions (DETR), headed by the Deputy Prime Minister, John Prescott, are designed to encourage councils to repurchase assets.



Gordon Brown: 'Councils must sell their assets'

The plan will challenge the Right to Buy scheme whose popularity played a key role in the electoral success of Margaret Thatcher in 1979.

A spokesman for the DETR said: "Because we want to encourage local authorities to look at the assets they can sell doesn't mean that there won't be some areas where it's sensible for the reverse to happen." The Treasury refused to comment.

The DETR green paper is being considered by councils across England and is likely to be enacted during the winter. It will make council houses less attractive to buy and ex-council stock easier to repurchase.

According to DETR estimates, the Right to Buy scheme costs £400m a year in lost rents plus the cost of re-

BY ANDREW MULLINS

placing homes purchased under the scheme. The net flow of housing into the private sector is running at 40,000 properties a year, and the new plans are intended to reduce this number by cutting the maximum discount available to tenants by as much as half.

In addition, a "buy-back incentive" will allow councils to use council house receipts, which have been frozen for years, to cover a quarter of the cost of repurchasing former municipal property.

The buy-back incentives will apply to any former council property, whether or not it was bought from the council by its present owner.

The maximum discount available to council tenants is £50,000 but the DETR believes this amount is unjustifiable and intends to reduce it substantially, in line with local house prices.

In the South-east the proposed maximum will be £38,000; in the North-east it will be as low as £22,000.

Last year 40,000 homes were sold under right-to-buy for an average price of about £21,000, and the average discount was 50 per cent.

Bournemouth Borough Council spent £250,000 last year repurchasing its former stock and has been active in the area since 1994.

A spokeswoman says there is still a "stigma" attached to some council property, making it hard to resell.

Steve Thompson, head of housing in Bournemouth, said yesterday that a range of problems, from the housing boom to high service charges, caused many former council tenants to fall behind with mortgage payments.

Once a property is repurchased the occupants are rehoused and a family from the waiting list is moved in. This prevents people from drifting in and out of home ownership at the expense of the state.

Sarah Foran, who bought her council flat in 1988, said: "I am really hopeful this proposal is going to bail us out of this mess."

LAWYERS TRYING TO OVERTURN THE MURDER CONVICTION OF RUTH ELLIS

BY ROGER DOBSON

found at the Public Record Office has a 30-year closure order on it, dating from 1973. She was executed in 1955, and as far as we are aware, nothing else happened in 1973 that could have prompted such a secrecy order," said one of the lawyers, Lynne de Maid, a member of the Cardiff-based legal team that successfully won a posthumous pardon for Mahmood Matian, the executed Cardiff seaman.

One theory is that the solicitor, John Bickford, had known all along about the involvement of another man in the murder and that in 1973, when he was a dying man, he had gone to tell the police what had really happened.

"The closed file we have

she was going out with Blakely, she also had another boyfriend, Desmond Cousins.

"Ruth left home at 15, was courted by a Canadian airman and became pregnant by him.

"She met George Ellis who was very violent, and then Blakely who was physically very violent and who punched her in the stomach, causing a miscarriage three weeks before the shooting.

"We know that Ruth fired the gun, but we think it was a joint enterprise; that Cousins borrowed a gun, cleaned it, gave Ruth target practice, pried her with Pernod and then drove her to the scene of the crime.

"We think Bickford knew that, but listened to Cousins perjuring himself in court when

he should have done something about it. Just why he did that, we do not know yet.

"In 1973 Bickford went to Scotland Yard, where we be-

lieve he confessed that he didn't represent her properly. Ruth did not expect to hang and we think she was encouraged in that belief by her solicitor.

"It was only on the day before she hanged, when she sacked him, that she realised what was happening," Ms de Maid said.

"We have made repeated requests for access to the closed file and we have now written to ministers seeking their help."

The team expects to submit an application for an appeal with the Criminal Cases Review Commission by the end of this month, which will include the details of the attack by Blakely.

"We feel very strongly that they will refer it, and we think

BY ALAN MURDOCH
in Dublin

Catholic woman in Ireland is ordained

THERE WAS a quiet revolution in religious life yesterday when Ireland's first Catholic woman priest was ordained at a ceremony in rural Co Louth.

A more unlikely revolutionary would be hard to find. After becoming "Mother Frances", Frances Meigh, a 67-year-old British-born divorced mother with three adult children, returned to a hermit's cottage nearby in the village of Oneatch, where her life will centre on prayer and painting icons.

Mother Frances, a former Anglican whose marriage was first annulled by the church, took vows in 1994 to become a nun, though there was a dispute with clergy in Middlesbrough, Cleveland, over the circumstances.

Now she will emerge for a few hours daily to St Andrew's, the former Protestant church in Oneatch reopened in April by Bishop Pat Buckley, Ireland's rebel Catholic liberal cleric.

Bishop Buckley maintains the Meigh ordination is "perfectly in accord with Catholic doctrine" based on scripture and tradition, citing St Paul's recognition of Deaconess Phoebe at Caesarea and the wider acceptance of women deacons in the early Christian church.

A message of support for the first woman priest arrived from Tony Benn, the Labour MP. A number of Catholic clergy supporting admission of women to the priesthood attended the ceremony. Mainstream Irish

bishops presented a face of regal indifference, though many were believed to be seething. Their silence may also signal a lack of unanimity in their opposition.

Official church spokesmen are privately strongly critical of Bishop Buckley, strongly disapproving of his welcome to divorcees and mixed religion couples seeking the formal church wedding ceremonies denied them under Vatican canon law. His appointment in June as a bishop by a fellow dissident, Bishop Michael Cox, was pronounced "valid but unlawful" by the official church, which excommunicated him. He insists he remains a Catholic, though outside formal church structures.

But after the clerical sex abuse scandals and the embarrassment over the Bishop of Galway, Eamonn Casey, who had a son in a secret affair with an American woman, the bishops have remained unusually quiet over the latest breach of discipline.

The impact of this rebellion is complicated by the historically fragmented nature of the faith with its diverse spread of priests teaching and nursing orders pledging allegiance to Rome, although they have sharply varying degrees of international conformity to compulsory celibacy, and now to an exclusively male priesthood.



Alan Lewis

Ruth Ellis lawyers demand secret papers

LAWYERS TRYING TO OVERTURN THE MURDER CONVICTION OF RUTH ELLIS

BY ROGER DOBSON



Ruth Ellis: Sacked lawyer the day before she hanged

the case will be heard next year at the Court of Appeal. She was not given a fair hearing," Ms de Maid said.

"When you read the papers on this case and that of Matian, you realise the appalling standards of justice that operated in those days. Facts about her miscarriage were not even brought out at the trial. It is very sad to think of this young woman with a two-year-old and a 10-year-old going to her death."

The team is also putting together a file on her psychological condition after her miscarriage, including depression and jealousy, both of which might now be mitigating factors, reducing the conviction from murder to manslaughter.

PRICE £12.95 OR THE SAME PRICE CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS. FOR MORE INFO, CALL 0345 000 400. CALLS CHARGED AT LOCAL RATE. WWW.PHOTOGRAPHIC.CO.UK



TO KNOW HOW IT FEELS TO OWN A PEUGEOT 406, LOOK AT THIS AND SMILE.

PEUGEOT
THE DRIVE OF YOUR LIFE

JAVICCO LTD

Albanian rebels fire on premier

THE ALBANIAN capital, Tirana, descended into chaos yesterday as tanks lumbered through the streets and the government declared that it was facing an attempted coup by opposition supporters loyal to the former president, Sali Berisha.

Armoured vehicles seized by opposition supporters fired repeatedly into the building that houses the office of Fatos Nano, the country's Socialist Party Prime Minister. Mr Nano's spokesman said: "The Prime Minister is safe but not in his office for reasons that are clear."

Gunned down declaring their loyalty to Mr Berisha's Democratic Party were seen breaking into parliament, while elsewhere in the city, opposition supporters seized control of the state television building. Mr Berisha used the opportunity to broadcast a repeat of his demands for Mr Nano and his government to resign.

Groups of armed men gathered on the streets while cars

BY PAUL WOOD
Balkans Correspondent

with automatic rifles jutting from the windows drove up and down.

It was the second day of violence in the capital. Armed rioting by Democratic Party supporters began at the weekend after one of their leaders, Azem Hajdari, was shot dead by men dressed in police uniforms.

On Sunday, Mr Berisha claimed that the government had organised Mr Hajdari's murder and demanded that Mr Nano resign within 24 hours.

At least 10,000 opposition supporters gathered for Mr Hajdari's funeral yesterday. Mr Berisha called for calm, but repeated his accusations. Trouble began after the funeral procession apparently attempted to take the coffin into government headquarters.

Eyewitnesses report that there was then an intense exchange of fire. The Socialist gov-



Opposition supporters protesting on a tank seized from the government in Martyrs of the Nation, Tirana's main street, yesterday Arben Celi

ernment put tanks and armoured personnel carriers on the streets, but opposition supporters commandeered several of the vehicles and it was not clear last night which side was really in control of the capital.

As the crisis deepened, the President, Rexhep Mejdani, held emergency meetings with parliamentary deputies, seemingly with a view to forming a new coalition government. If that happens, it will be a repeat

of last year when an armed insurrection saw the Democratic Party ejected from power. There were fears yesterday of full-scale civil war.

The Socialists have denied any involvement in Mr Hajdari's

death. To most independent observers it seems unlikely that the Socialists would risk provoking violence by ordering the assassination of an opponent.

The government's supporters mutter that Mr Berisha himself

BY IMRE KARACS
in Bonn

THERE WAS a new spring in Helmut Kohl's step, and an air of despondency hung over his opponents yesterday as politicians in Bonn digested the implications of Sunday night's conservative triumph in Bavaria.

Final results issued yesterday showed that, rather than gaining up to 4 percentage points as predicted, the Social Democrats had lost votes to the Christian Social Union in the elections to the Bavarian assembly. With the help of Gerhard Schröder's misguided campaigning, their result was 1 per cent lower than four years ago, when the national party was in a shambles.

Mr Schröder, who was looking forward to moving into the chancellery in two weeks' time, could not conceal his disappointment. "I don't need to underline that the Bavarian elections did not fulfil our hopes," he said.

Chancellor Kohl was visibly relieved. "We are full of fighting spirit and willing to fight for every vote," he said. "The general election has not been decided, whatever the polls say."

The polls are saying three-point advantage for the Social Democrats. But it has become a noticeable trend that in all but one regional elections – in Mr Schröder's Lower Saxony earlier this year – the pollsters overestimated the SPD's final score by 4 or 5 per cent.

The left can take comfort from the confirmation of the Greens as the third biggest party in the country, replacing Mr Kohl's allies, the Free Democrats. They vanished without trace in the Bavarian poll. If the Free Democrats fail to clear the 5-per-cent hurdle to the Bundestag on 27 September, Mr Kohl's days as Chancellor are over; no matter how well his own party does.

French rediscover the taste for home-grown soap

FOR THE first time in 30 years, French television has its own home-grown serial to match the gripping banalities of *Santa Barbara* or *EastEnders*.

The inaugural 26-minute episode of *Cop des Pins*, an everyday story of Breton millionaires, was shown on the publicly owned France 2 channel last night. It tells the story of the Chantreuil family – a cruel and rapacious father; a

BY JOHN LICHFIELD
in Paris

down-trodden, ineffective mother; and grown-up children with divided loyalties.

If that sounds strangely and depressingly familiar, it is not surprising. The last French-made television series to in any way resemble a soap opera ended in the late 1960s. The scriptwriters and executives

for *Cop des Pins* were dispatched to the United States, Britain, Germany and other soap-making countries to study the secrets of the lost art.

They came to the conclusion that a soap episode consists of three simple, slow-moving scenes, with an absolute maximum of five. A typical story-line over two weeks might be as follows: Things are not going well between Romeo and Juliet;

Romeo's father's factory closes down; Tristan and Isolde discuss the problems of Romeo and Juliet; things are not going well between Tristan and Isolde ...

The French researchers concluded that soaps reflect the countries in which they are made. In British soaps, almost all the action, or inaction, takes place in pubs. In American soaps, everyone has just been

to the hairdresser's – even the down-and-outs.

They are determined to give *Cop des Pins* a French flavour.

The first indications were that the characters will be more interestingly dressed than those in American soaps; and that they will eat more often and better than the characters in *Coronation Street* and *EastEnders*.

One of the scriptwriters of

Cop des Pins, Cathy Pierre, said the series will be "very French and not entirely a soap".

Simone Harari, the producer (who studied with the producers of *Santa Barbara*), says soaps are the perfect expression of modernity. "They are not challenging to watch, but they are very challenging to make."

The rediscovery of soaps in France is partly a response to criticism of the high proportion of foreign drama on French television. French-made light entertainment programmes consist mostly of quiz shows, variants of *It's A Knock-out* and some detective series.

There is no French sit-com, but that vacuum will be filled shortly. The cable network, Canal Plus, is making three sitcoms based on American models, and two air next month.

Discover the World

.lycos.

Let Lycos be your personal guide to the Internet. Find UK and Ireland Web sites, weather forecasts, up-to-date financial news and chat with friends around the world ... ALL for FREE!

LYCOS
Search Engine
Get lycos or get lost!

FAX BACK NO.
0660 616

Taliban seize 'idolatrous' Buddha icons

FEARS ARE growing for the fate of two giant statues of Buddha in central Afghanistan after the region in which they stand was seized at the weekend by the country's fundamentalist Islamic militia.

The two 200ft-high statues dominate the horizon above the trenches and bunkers being dug in Bamyan, which the Taliban overran last weekend.

Recognised by archaeologists as one of the greatest construction works of antiquity, the Buddhas of Bamyan were hewn from rough sandstone about 1,300 years ago.

At least one Taliban commander has pledged to destroy them saying such representations were idolatrous and offensive to Islam.

He has been overruled by more moderate Taliban officials, but the murder of nine Iranian diplomats by Taliban troops last month shows the Taliban leaders often have difficulty controlling their more extreme elements.

Until the weekend, Bamyan was held by the opposition Hezb-i-Wahdat faction. With the veteran commander Ahmed Shah Masood's stronghold in the north-east, it was one of the last areas outside the Taliban's control. With its fall on Sunday the opposition forces are almost total disarray.

The fate of the statues may be affected by the Taliban need

BY JASON BURKE
in Islamabad

for international recognition. Many realise that the destruction of the Buddhas would play badly on the global stage.

The recent crisis, brought to a head by the killing of the Iranian diplomats, has its roots in the complex system of alliances. Iran, dominated by Shia Muslim clerics, has supported the Shia Hezb-i-Wahdat faction against the Sunni Muslim Taliban. The leader of the Hezb-i-Wahdat fled Bamyan on Sunday to Iran.

Iran is demanding that the Taliban apologise for the murder of the diplomats and send their killers to Iran for trial. So far the Taliban have refused. Neither have the Taliban responded to requests for the release of a further 30 Iranians held prisoner in Kandahar.

There have been reports that retreating Hezb-i-Wahdat fighters massacred dozens of Taliban prisoners in Bamyan.

Taliban sources claim that an Iranian general is training more than 12,000 Afghan refugees in four camps just inside the border.

Never the less, the Taliban believe that the Iranians are merely sabre-rattling. "They know that to attack would unify the whole of Afghanistan against them and risk war in the whole region," said one senior Taliban.

Iran has deployed 200,000 troops on the western frontier of Afghanistan, ostensibly for military exercises. The Taliban

have reinforced their defences, distributed weapons to local villagers, moved about 25,000 troops to the border and deployed 30 mid-range rockets and 16 Stinger missiles.

Presently only three nations – Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates – have recognised the Taliban as the legitimate government of Afghanistan. The country's seat at the United Nations is still held by Burnahuddin Rabani, the ousted president.

Last year the UN, prompted by leaders of Buddhist countries, called on the Taliban to respect the Bamyan monuments. They were assured by senior officials in Kandahar – the southern Afghan city that is the headquarters of the Taliban – that the Koran obliged them to respect the holy places of other faiths.

A strong faction within the Taliban, however, believes they are now conducting a Jihad (Holy War). "One effect of the recent American missile strikes has been to radicalise the Taliban. They feel that Islam is under threat and that attacks against any target deemed to be non-Islamic is justified," said Kamal Khan, a Pakistani political analyst.

Iran has deployed 200,000 troops on the western frontier of Afghanistan, ostensibly for military exercises. The Taliban

Indonesian military chief warns of collapse

THE HEAD of Indonesia's armed forces said unrest may lead to the fall of the government and even the country's collapse, as demonstrations, riots and looting raged in several cities. "The demands of these groups... can shake this legitimate government and break up the nation's unity, which could lead to disintegration,"

BY RICHARD LLOYD PARRY

tion," said General Wiranto, who is also Defence Minister. He was speaking to parliament after a fortnight of growing discontent with the government of President B.J. Habibie, who replaced President Suharto after similar unrest in May. In Medan, in Sumatra,

shops owned by Chinese families were stoned after a demonstration lured out of control. Bus and taxi drivers and students protested at the provincial government office over the price of staples, driven up by the collapse of the rupiah last year and the subsequent economic crisis. Dozens of people were arrested after

mobs ran through the town, looting. There were lesser disturbances in the Sumatran city of Jambi as well as on the island of Sulawesi and in Semarang, in Central Java. The Minister for Food, A.M. Saefuddin, was quoted in a newspaper yesterday as admitting that 17 million of the country's 202 million people

do not have enough to eat. "The urban poor are especially vulnerable. In many rural areas, people are more used to hardship and can seek alternative ways to cope. Those who demonstrate or loot are usually the urban poor."

The IMF, which has bailed out the economy, recently

announced measures to help Indonesia to relieve the crisis, including tax breaks on rice, to reduce food shortages. Anti-Chinese riots, which have broken out across the country this year, often start with rumours that a particular shopkeeper has been hoarding rice to sell it later at inflated prices.



Children of persecuted Hazara before one Buddha Robert Tuttle and Robert Bain

If you can't see the wood for the trees...

...Step back and look at the facts!

Waste paper represents over 46.03% of the raw material used to make UK newspapers, the wood comes from managed forests.

TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE USE OF RAW MATERIALS IN THE NEWSPAPER INDUSTRY:

DIAL THE
**FAX BACK NUMBER
0660 616231**
0660 calls cost 49p per minute at all times



OR WRITE TO:
1 RIVENHALL ROAD,
WESTLEA,
SWINDON, SN5 7BD
TELEPHONE: 01793 879229
FAX: 01793 886182

FLOODS DEVASTATE ASIA.

This year, monsoon rains have wrought havoc throughout much of Asia. Two thirds of Bangladesh is under water. Thousands of villages have been washed away in Nepal and India. 14 million have been left homeless in China.

Crops have been ruined. The risk of typhoid and cholera is growing daily. Millions are suffering.

The International Red Cross is already providing tarpaulins, food, clean drinking water and basic medical supplies, but it's not enough. Hundreds of thousands of families still urgently need your help.

Ironically, the one thing people need most is clean water. Just £25 can provide enough water purification tablets to treat 200,000 litres.

Please give as much as you can. Your donation will help save lives.

Yes, I want to help.

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Tel. _____

Please tick this box if you do not wish to receive further information on the British Red Cross

Please tick this box if you do not wish to receive mail from other reputable charities

Please call now with your credit card donation

0345 315 315

Or send a cheque or postal order with this coupon

I enclose a cheque/postal order (payable to British Red Cross) for

£250 £50 £30 £25 Other £_____

Or please debit my Visa/Mastercard/American Express/Switch Card

Expiry date _____ Today's date _____ Switch issue no. _____

Signature _____

Now please send this coupon with your donation, to the BRITISH RED CROSS, ROOM 4731, FREEPOST, LONDON, SW1X 7BR. A donation of £250 or more is worth almost a third as much again through Gift Aid as we can claim back the tax.

British Red Cross

Registered Charity No. 22949

Lepers at Wangdu clinic, near Peking, which is also a refuge for cured patients classified as 'aged and vulnerable' Teresa Poole

Cure gives little joy to victims of leprosy

FOR THE past decade the furthest 75-year-old Hou Jingyao has ventured from his room is the one mile to the village market. For a long time before that, he went nowhere; the gates of the grey-brick walled compound in Wangdu County were locked. Even after the padlocks were thrown away, the outside world seemed an inhospitable place. Looking at his destroyed fingers, his missing toes, his weakened leg and the sores on his skin, he swore: "This damned disease! I don't know how I got it. Since I got leprosy I have had very few moments of happiness."

Mr Hou started his stay at Wangdu's leprosy clinic in 1960. Until the mid-1980s China's policy was to lock lepers in rural hospitals or isolate them in "leprosy villages", releasing them only if several years' treatment cured them. Liu Shuangzhan, director at Wangdu clinic, said: "We had various gates: one for staff, one for patients who were received, another for when the patient died and one gate for when they were cured."

Those who were cured were often so disfigured they chose to remain rather than be ostracised in their villages. From the mid-1980s, when multi-drug therapy (MDT) offered a quick, permanent cure, China abandoned its policy of isolating lepers.

But the likes of Wangdu were much-needed refuges from the difficulties of life outside. Older, disfigured residents such as Mr Hou stayed on. Wangdu is only three hours by a new highway from Peking but for many of the 38 residents the only experience of a fast-modernising China has been via television. Mr Hou arrived in 1960, was released in 1974, but returned in 1980. "I just listen to the radio and watch television," he said. "My relatives visit twice a year."

This month Peking hosted the 15th International Leprosy Conference, attended by 1,000 delegates working to stamp out leprosy worldwide by 2000. The World Health Organisation estimates there are 1 million cases globally, two-thirds in South-East Asia. It is not very contagious but is a stubborn disease: 500,000 cases are diagnosed each year. Unless treated promptly, nerve injury leads to loss of feeling in the hands and feet, rendering them vulnerable to injury and infection. It also attacks the eyes and causes muscle weakness and paralysis.

In the first half of this century, lepers in China were still being buried alive, floated out to sea to die or abandoned on islands. Since 1949 China has had great success combating the disease, albeit at the expense of individual liberty. The rate has fallen from 2.4 per 10,000 in 1955 to 0.033 per

BY TERESA POOLE
in Wangdu County

10,000 last year. After 1987 the situation was transformed by MDT drugs, which can cure leprosy in two years. The number of cases under active treatment fell to 4,045 last year and about 2,000 new cases are diagnosed annually.

For some in China, multi-drug therapy came too late. Yin Dakui, vice-minister for health, told the conference that China had 120,000 disabled cured lepers, of whom about 20,000 were "aged and vulnerable". He Daxun, at the China Leprosy Association, said there were 20 to 30 "leprosy villages" and more than 40 hospitals housing cured patients.

Wangdu, which opened in 1954, had 230 patients at its peak in 1982. It is a walled compound, surrounded by cornfields. Inside, buildings are divided into sparsely furnished, one-room dwellings and the gardens are planted with vegetables and grain.

Of the 38 residents, 25 are elderly, cured patients. Liu Huirong, 66, said: "I came here in 1957. It was sad to be isolated, not a pleasant feeling. I was cured in 1966 and went home. But people in my country were very afraid of me. When they saw me they took a roundabout way." She returned in 1978 after the death of her husband and two of their children in an earthquake. "Life is better here," she said. Her neighbour, seeing a rare visitor, turned away to hide her absent hands and half-missing face.

The younger generation is luckier. Huang Liying, 34, is Wangdu's youngest patient. The disease was caught before any disability occurred, and next year she should be able to return to her village. Many new victims can also be treated as out-patients or at home.

Conditions are basic and most of the 25 cured but disabled old residents are in ragged clothes. Seeing 66-year-old Xu Diangang's room and unwashed bedclothes, it is easy to understand how infections set in. But knowing life outside would be worse, the patients are grateful.

"If there is a clinic, we can live several extra years. If there is no clinic, maybe we would just die," Mr Xu said.

The aged residents fear the clinic might close as the number of patients falls. This is partly due to a misunderstanding. "We have seen the slogan which says leprosy will be eradicated by 2000. We are afraid... there will be no more clinics. And we will have no place to go," Mr Hou said, as staff tried to reassure him it will be years before China can close its leprosy clinics.



Welcome to Marlboro Country.

PROTECT CHILDREN: DON'T MAKE THEM SMOKER

Marlboro King Size
12 mg Tar 0.9 mg Nicotine

Chief Medical Officer
Marlboro
9 mg Tar 0.7 mg Nicotine

Sept 10 1998

China rebuffs UN on rights

BY TERESA POOLE
in Peking

"I AM NOT a comfortable presence for the Chinese authorities and that is understandable, because they have many problems and many violations," said Mary Robinson, the first United Nations Human Rights Commissioner to visit China.

Yesterday, in a 90-minute meeting, she heard President Jiang Zemin repeat China's argument that lifting people out of poverty was the country's priority - and responded by telling him that protecting civil liberties was just as important.

During her 10-day trip, which ends today, Mrs Robinson has sought to open a process of engagement with China, a country where human-rights abuses are still commonplace but where the past two decades has also seen improvements in personal freedoms and living standards.

veteran dissident monk, Yu Dawa Tsering, who was arrested after speaking to a UN human-rights team in 1994.

Her request was not granted by the Chinese. She also asked officials in Tibet of the whereabouts of nine-year-old Gendun Choekyi Nyima, who was named by the Dalai Lama in 1995 as the new Panchen Lama.

She received no answer. "It's not ever a case of getting instant answers. I regard this as the start of a continuing process," she said.

■ China's former president Yang Shangkun died yesterday aged 82, state media reported. A ranking general, Yang had played a crucial role in the suppression of the pro-democracy demonstrations that swept China in the spring of 1989.

On a visit to a monastery, Mrs Robinson asked to meet a

Obituary, Review, page 5

rebuffs
rights

THE INDEPENDENT
Tuesday 15 September 1998



South African farmers are armed to the teeth after more than 500 murders since 1994

FOREIGN NEWS/17

White farmers in fear of the killers

CECIL FRAUENSTEIN'S last words were in Xhosa. "Ndenzini kuni embi ndizelensi... What harm have I done you?" cried the 66-year-old farmer as five black teenagers finished him off with knives.

His son Craig, 30, muses over his father's final sentence, heard by a farm labourer who saw the brutal killing.

"He was a poor man," he says, gazing at the small plot that is part junkyard, part farm where his father was murdered last weekend. "He struggled all his life to give us an education. What is hardest for me is the way he died."

The attack on Cecil Frauenstein was so vicious his nose was almost severed. "I cleaned up the blood," Craig says. He identified the body to shield his mother and twin sister from the grim necessity.

Mr Frauenstein was one of three white farmers murdered

BY MARY BRAID
in Eastern Cape

in the Eastern Cape in the past two weeks. George Wylie, 76, was shot in bed at Grahamstown. When his son Peter, who found his body, tried to talk about the murder on national radio two days later, he broke down, howling like a wounded animal.

The day before George Wylie was killed, Jacobus "Bokkie" Human, 46, who farmed at nearby Paterson, was gunned down by four men on national radio two days later, he broke down, howling like a wounded animal.

More than 500 white farmers have been murdered in 2,400 attacks on farms since South Africa's first democratic elections in 1994. Almost without exception their attackers were black. Since January, more than 100 farmers and their relatives have been killed. Farmers in KwaZulu Natal are

threatening to withhold their taxes, others threaten to take the law into their own hands. A worried President Mandela will host a summit on the killings early next month.

The farmers say the attacks are politically inspired. Two government-sponsored reports claimed the attacks were principally criminal. Those conclusions seem dubious, given that farmers have evicted thousands of tenants in advance of new legislation giving farm workers tenure rights.

Dr Piet Gous, president of the Free State Agricultural Union and a right-wing Freedoms Front MP, scoffs at the notion that crime alone lies behind the killings. "Why then do they break in when no one is home and wait up to eight hours to kill the farmer?" Others point to the military precision of some attacks.

Craig Frauenstein finds it hard to believe that there is no racial element when five black youths beat, kick and stab an old white man to death.

The white farmers accuse President Mandela of doing too little. More radical black parties, who say nothing has changed for blacks in post-apartheid South Africa, accuse him of pandering to whites.

Why has Mr Mandela never called a farm labourers' summit, Nkosy Molala asked in a Soweto newspaper, when they are routinely fed to trees by their employers or used as shooting practice? He said white farmers were "digging their own graves".

Derek Hanekom, the ANC land affairs minister, suggested that "poor relations" between farmers and workers were factors in the crisis. Such talk, says Mr Gous, inflames the "illiterates in squatter camps". Relations between white farmer and blacks employees are fine, he insists.

That is not the way many blacks tell it. "I was raised on a farm," says Lingile, 30. "The farmers paid us poorly and children had to leave school and work if a parent died. Otherwise families would be kicked off the land." In one respect he and Mr Gous agree. "I am sure the attacks are 80 per cent revenge. There is so much bad feeling here.

There are scores to settle."

At Mr Frauenstein's funeral, the mood of fear was palpable. The murders had frayed the nerves of the hundreds of local farmers who gathered for the ceremony. One leader said his daughter hated black men since a violent robbery at their home, though a black labourer was murdered trying to protect her.

The attacks are hardening attitudes even among white liberals. "I used to take the side of blacks in arguments with friends," said Craig Frauenstein. "I believed apartheid was unjust... but then this." A gun now hangs on his hip. "It is the gun my father should have worn."

A virtual state of emergency has gripped rural areas. Private security firms - including the mercenary outfit Executive Outcomes - are patrolling farms in the Free State, day and night.

"We don't have many problems here," says Mr Gous with a laugh. "We have shot most of them. We hunted some down last week who attacked a woman on a farm. Two were shot to death."

One young Grahamstown farm activist said: "Electric fences are going up everywhere and we're swamped with private security offers. Now its shooting practice instead of tennis. No one sits in the pub after dark and if you go to an evening meeting you take your wife and children."

He says his black workers are as terrified of attacks as he is and believes right-wing racists must shoulder some blame for the crisis. "But I am a 34-year-old democrat," he adds. "Why must I be shot for something I did not do?"

The politicians fear for the economy of South Africa's successful farming sector. Farmers are talking of selling up and emigrating. Cecil Frauenstein's wife will never return to their farm.

Eight miles away Dorte Hennings' husband, Hugo, 60, died after a farm attack in 1994. Eighteen months later, she survived a knife attack by an employee. Mr Frauenstein's death was the last straw. "They just have something against white people," she says. Her farm is up for sale.

A beautiful job centre, shame about the work

STREET LIFE
SAMOTECHNY LANE, MOSCOW

SERGEI ZHURAVLYOV, a qualified aircraft engineer, was tired of going into work, sitting around doing nothing and not getting paid. Bravely, he declared himself redundant and signed on last week at the job centre.

"We are here to give hope," said Anatoly Pigida, head of the job centre in Moscow's Taganka district. "We do have jobs to offer."

Housed in a newly renovated 19th-century mansion, with computers in every office, it was a far cry from the grubby office with card indexes I visited five years ago.

I had gone to the job centre to find a fallen Russian yuppie. In the latest economic crisis, banks have been laying off staff, but hurt bankers crawl away to lick their wounds and then network for new jobs rather than sign on.

"So far the effects of the crisis have not fed through to us," Mr Pigida said. "You won't find any bosses here, certainly not Viktor Chernomyrdin," he joked in reference to the Prime Minister who had just lost his job.

Indeed, of the 800 registered at this job centre, 556 were women. Only 41 were in their twenties or younger. Most job seekers were middle-aged.

In Mayor Yuri Luzhkov's Moscow, the unemployed are initially not much worse off than those still in work. They get their legal entitlement to 75 per cent of their former income in the first three months and are offered opportunities for retraining. Most Moscow enterprises still pay regularly into a state fund for the unemployed.

On paper, unemployment

in Moscow stands at 0.7 per cent, but in fact thousands of people are only going through the motions of work.

"Lately, there's been nothing to do at work," said Galina Silina, 47. She has spent most of her working life in a "Beriozka" (Little Birch Tree) shop, one of the stores that in Soviet times sold goods for hard currency to foreigners.

Counsellor Valentina Makarova keyed Galina's details into her computer: "Job in a supermarket near Kashirskaya Metro; no, they want somebody under 35."

"Experience used to be everything," Galina said. "Now it counts for nothing."

"Job selling ice-cream from a kiosk," offered Valentina. "No way," said Galina. "It'd be cold in winter. The Beriozka was nice. We used to get a good class of people in there."

Sergei Zhuravlyov, the aircraft engineer, knew that at 43 his opportunities were limited. Valentina looked down lists of general clerical jobs. They were all for younger people and computer skills were essential.

"Look," Sergei said. "I really just need to earn money. I'll do anything. I can't go on with my wife keeping the family."

At that, Valentina printed out for him the details of a job loading and unloading at a market, at a salary of 800 roubles (about £36). "Is that a job for a family man with higher education?" she said after he had left. "If I'm to be honest, all we are doing here is offering the illusion of hope."

HELEN WOMACK

THEM BREATHE YOUR SMOKE

ON'T M

Marlboro Lights
6 mg Tar 0.5 mg Nicotine

Warning
Chief Medical Officer's Warning
Marlboro Lights contain nicotine

© Philip Morris Inc 1998

Business & City Editor, Jeremy Warner
News desk: 0171-293 2636 Fax: 0171-293 2098
E-mail: IndyBusiness@Independent.co.uk

BUSINESS

BRIEFING

Utility Cable shares suspended

SHARES IN Utility Cable, the troubled group which digs up roads to install TV cables, were suspended yesterday at the company's request. In a statement, Utility Cable said it had asked the Stock Exchange to suspend trading "pending clarification of its financial position". The company declined to comment further.

The shares have slumped from a high of 37p five years ago to 2.25p yesterday as Utility Cable was hit by sharp reductions in installation expenditure by cable TV operators. In January the company announced a boardroom shake-up which saw the departures of the chief operating officer, Alan Baskeyfield, and the commercial director, Sean Maguire.

A record summer for BAA



BAA's seven UK airports handled 11.5 million passengers in August, making it a record summer, with the highest number of passengers ever recorded over a two-month period, it was announced yesterday.

The surge marks a 6.5 per cent increase on the same month last year and a 7.6 per cent increase in BAA's passenger traffic for the financial year to date,

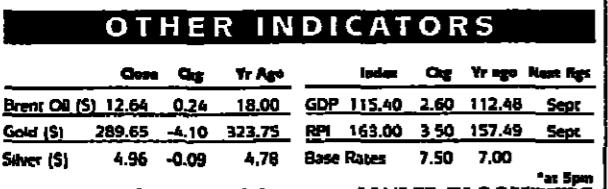
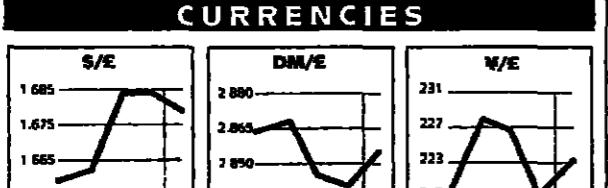
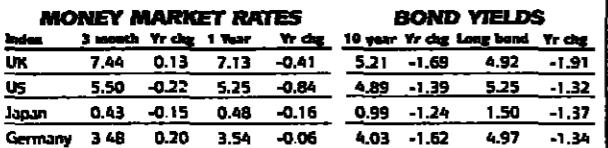
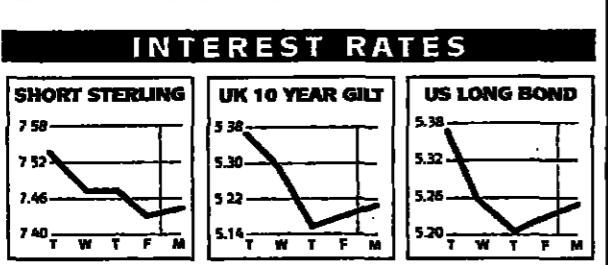
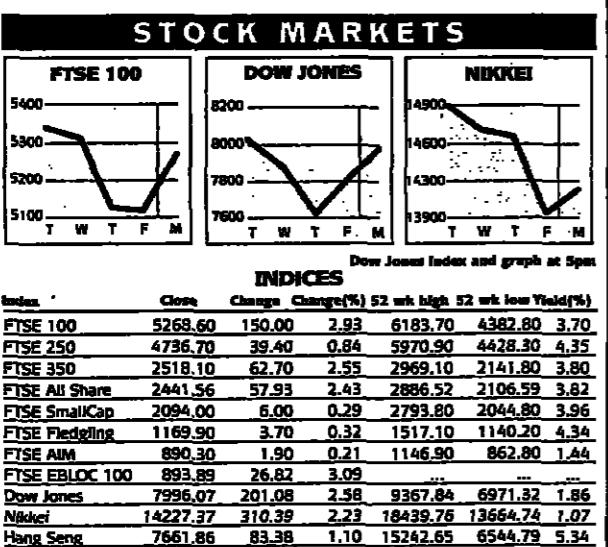
compared with the previous year's figures. BAA, whose chief executive is John Egan (left), also revealed a 6.5 per cent increase in passenger traffic for the 12 months to 31 August this year.

The fastest growth among the key markets in August was on European scheduled routes, where traffic increased by 9.2 per cent, and North Atlantic services, where the rise was 8.3 per cent.

Littlechild hails electricity move

THE ELECTRICITY regulator, Professor Stephen Littlechild, yesterday hailed the opening of the domestic market to competition as an instant success, saying that more than a million households had signed up to switch supplier. He was speaking as the launch of competition began with 750,000 customers, initially in Norwich, Chester, Motherwell and Hull, free to shop around.

Savings for those who switch are expected to average around £20 on the typical household bill of £254. Professor Littlechild said the experiment would be justified even if no more than 5 per cent of the market changed supplier.



www.bloomberg.com/uk SOURCE: BLOOMBERG

Clinton's call for united action fuels rate-cut hope

HOPES OF interest rate cuts in the world's leading economies were raised last night when President Clinton joined the G7 group of industrial nations in calling for a co-ordinated response to the global financial crisis.

Speaking at the Council on Foreign Relations in New York, Mr Clinton said that the priority was now to boost world growth rather than curb inflation, a statement which was interpreted as a signal that joint action to cut rates was now possible.

His call for action, which coincided with a similar communique from G7 finance ministers and central bank governors, helped prop up

BY LEA PATERSON
IN LONDON
AND ANDREW MARSHALL
IN WASHINGTON

and the rest of the world has been preoccupied by inflation.

"Clearly the balance of risks has now shifted – with a full quarter of the world's population living in countries with declining economic growth. Therefore, I believe the industrial world's chief priority today plainly is to spur growth."

In a separate statement last night, G7 finance ministers and central bank governors said they would support "a co-operative international approach to support those countries that had been adversely affected by recent developments in global markets and which are implementing strong economic programmes."

They expressed concern about the withdrawal of capital from the emerging markets and re-affirmed their commitment to the IMF.

It echoes of Mr Clinton's speech, G7 finance ministers and central bank governors also said the "balance of risks in the world economy had shifted."

They added they would consider measures to alleviate the effects of the crisis on the poorest elements segments of society, but stressed that "unilateral action" on debt by countries hit by the crisis could hurt the world economy.

Mr Gordon Brown, Chancellor of the Exchequer, who flies to Japan today to meet

finance officials, said that there is both a concern about what is happening and a preparedness to take action where it is necessary.

However he warned against taking "the precipitate action that was taken at other times which led to serious results in the late 1980s."

The Chancellor was referring to the co-ordinated interest cut that took place following the market crash of 1987, and which was subsequently blamed for stoking up inflationary pressures in the global economy.

In a separate statement, Mr Gordon Brown, Chancellor of the Exchequer, who flies to Japan today to meet

Clinton called on Congress to approve the \$1.8bn he has requested to replenish the IMF's depleted resources.

Meanwhile, better-than-expected manufacturing price data in the UK could help pave the way for early rate cuts, economists said.

The Office for National Statistics (ONS) said that producer input prices fell by 0.9 per cent in August, while producer output prices were down 0.2 per cent on the month.

The markets had been expecting a 0.7 per cent drop in input prices and static output prices.

Outlook, page 19

Vaux calls time on 350 pubs and two breweries

BY NIGEL COPE
Associate City Editor

VAUX, THE Sunderland-based leisure group, became the latest pub operator to call time on its brewing operations yesterday when it put its two breweries in Sunderland and Sheffield up for sale.

The decision follows a strategic review by new chief executive Martin Grant, who joined the group from Allied Domecq three months' ago, and severs the company's links with north-east brewing, which date back to 1837. The company also wants to sell its wholesale operations and 350 tenanted pubs to concentrate on its Swallow hotels division and other leisure interests.

The decision could threaten more than 600 jobs at the breweries if they cannot be sold. Around 500 staff work at the Sunderland site, which is best known for its Samson bitter and Lambton's "smoothbrew".

More than 100 are employed at the Wards brewery in Sheffield. However the company said yesterday that interest has already been expressed in the breweries by Vaux director Frank Nicholson, the younger brother of the non-executive chairman Paul Nicholson.

Analysts said the breweries and pubs could fetch a combined £100m.

Most said the real value would lie in the pubs, which could be worth up to £60m.

The value of the breweries would be heavily dependent on any contractual agreement with Vaux's remaining pub estate.

The Campaign for Real Ale criticised the company's deci-



Credit: North News and Pictures

sion saying it could lead to a reduction in the choice of regional beers. However, it welcomed the news that ownership may stay within the Vaux family.

Vaux, which sponsors Sunderland football club, said it would "continue to be a major player in the north east".

Vaux is keeping its 320 best tenanted pubs as well as its 180 managed outlets. These in-

clude its Barcentro cafe bar outlets and its Bramwell community pubs.

The 48 Swallow hotels have shown strong growth, the company said yesterday, with revenue per room ahead by 11 per cent on a like-for-like basis at £40.48. Current trading across the group is broadly in line with expectations, it added.

News of the sell-off follows a wave of consolidation in the in-

dustry, which has seen a spate of brewery closures and mergers.

Scottish & Newcastle recently announced the loss of 300 jobs following the closure of headquarters in Northampton, the West Midlands and Chorley. Whitbread, Morland and Carlsberg have also either closed plants or put them up for sale.

Vaux shares closed 11.5p higher at 279p.

Regent spends to stop any more mistakes

BY NIGEL COPE

REGENT INNS, the pub operator which issued a calamitous profits warning in June, said yesterday that it has doubled head office expenditure and beefed up its accounting controls to ensure that previous errors with sales figures are not repeated. The company disclosed in June that "inconsistencies and inaccuracies" in the way sales figures had been calculated would cause a £1.7m profits shortfall.

Yesterday the company said it had increased the expenditure on its head office functions from 4 per cent of group sales to 8 per cent. Its accounts department now boasts 27 staff, including a new finance director, a new financial controller, and four management accountants instead of the previous two.

The company admitted that its central controls had not kept up with the rapid expansion of the company. It is considering merging all its offices under one roof to avoid the potential effects of communications problems.

David Franks, Regent's managing director, said: "We have acknowledged the questions over our finances and we have taken all the necessary steps to ensure credibility is restored."

Mr Franks said the board had become aware in mid-April that there might be a problem with the way like-for-like sales were being calculated. However, at that time it was felt that the problem was not serious enough to warrant an announcement to the Stock Exchange. It was only following work by the new finance director and the auditors that it became clear that there would be a material impact on profits.

Regent shares fell by 44 per cent in June when the company said the problems with its sales figures, together with delayed openings, would cause the group to miss profit forecasts. Yesterday Regent reported pretax profits up 6 per cent to £13.3m in line with forecasts reduced from earlier expectations of £16m.

Like-for-like sales rose by 1.5 per cent over the year. The shares closed 5p higher at 161p.

Oil exploration companies merge

BY MICHAEL HARRISON

At last night's closing prices, the offer values the combined group at £790m and Hardy Oil and Gas shareholders will emerge with 63 per cent of the enlarged group and Hardy Oil and Gas shareholders with 37 per cent.

John Walmsley, chief executive of Hardy Oil and Gas, is quitting with a pay-off expected to be in the region of £200,000.

The deal is taking the form of an all-paper offer with British Borneo, Britain's oldest oil company, issuing six new shares for every seven shares in Hardy Oil and Gas.

The chairman and chief executive posts will be filled by Sir Bob Reid and Alan Gaynor, both from British Borneo, while the finance director will be

Hardy Oil and Gas' John van der Welle.

The two companies denied that they had been forced together by the low oil price. Mr Gaynor maintained that the alliance was "an ideal fit in terms of strategy, assets and cash flow".

But the market greeted the deal by marking down British Borneo's shares by 13 per cent and analysts did not rule out the possibility of a cash bid for Hardy from one of the oil majors. Hardy shares closed up 15p to 180.5p, compared with the

US may be alone in cutting rates



OUTLOOK

IT'S ALL VERY WELL calling for coordinated cuts in interest rates around the world, as Bill Clinton by demanding urgent action from the US appeared to yesterday, but what in practice are the chances of this happening?

The first point to be made is that these days it is not the politicians who make the choices, but independent central bankers, and they tend to be much more fixated on domestic economic concerns than global ones, rightly in many respects.

In Japan, short term interest rates are already so low they cannot realistically fall any further. In the UK, inflation is still rising, and although the balance of economic risk may have moved over the last couple of months from an inflationary to a recessionary one, a cut in UK rates would make very little difference to its own or the international economy.

As for Euroland, the pressures are all the other way; it needs a cut in rates like a hole in the head. In Germany and France, short term interest rates are already very low, at 3.3 per cent. In Italy, Spain and Ireland they are higher, but as the debate about who should converge

towards whom rages on, it is perhaps the case that the two core single currency members should be moving up to join the others rather than the other way round. Certainly the pressure for convergence argues very strongly against a further cut in Germany and France.

So actually, if anyone is going to cut rates, it ought to be the United States. Beside the urgent economic need for such action, there is also a moral obligation on the US. The financial markets that have come to pose such a threat to the world economy are largely born and bred in America. Certainly they are one of its biggest industries and exports; the US economy is more closely

aligned with and dependent on them than any other. If these very same financial markets are about to plunge us into recession, the onus is on the US to take the lead in bailing us out. If necessary, let's be prepared to do this alone.

Fantasy football

IT'S A FUNNY OLD GAME, soccer and no more so than now with the frenzy of speculation about who's going to bid for whom. Two parallels immediately spring to mind. The first is with what's happened to the electricity sector, where distributors and generators have followed each other into a legion of overpriced copycat deals.

The second, that of the City at the time of Big Bang, is probably the more exact one. Once one securities firm had been sold to a bank, then all banks had to have one, and virtually all securities firms just had to find a suitable sugar daddy too.

In the process, a generation of mainly undeserving partners got rich beyond the dreams of avarice while the banks lost their shirts.

Here are two versions of the game of fantasy football being

played out in the City. The first concerns Tottenham Hotspur. Disillusioned with the game after a disastrous start to the season, Alan Sugar let it be known he'd accept £50 a share for his 40 per cent shareholding. To begin with Joe Lewis's Eric low balled him, but last week it finally came up with the readers.

Mr Sugar then turns round and says he's not selling. Post Rupert Murdoch's bid for Manchester United, it's worth a lot more, he insists. This seems unlikely. Tottenham is unheard of outside the UK and on present form wouldn't qualify for the European super league. It used to be said that even if Spurs was no good on the pitch, at least it was strong off it as one of the most profitable clubs around. Alas even this is no longer true. Tottenham will lose money this year.

Mr Sugar already knows the fans don't like him: they've made that only too plain. Now he's in danger of alienating his shareholders too. This is no way to run a public company. Rather than acting as a conduit for the interests of all shareholders, as he should, Mr Sugar is acting as if the club is wholly his to buy and sell. To redeem his stewardship, Mr Sugar needs to

come up with a higher offer in double quick time. If alternatively he's decided he doesn't want out after all, he must announce a compelling strategy to rescue the club from its present predicament. Neither eventually looks very probable as things stand.

With Manchester United, we now have a real, live fantasy takeover bid. Salomon Smith Barney, the investment bank, has announced through the columns of the Sunday Telegraph that it might counter BSkyB, whether on its own behalf or that of a client is not made clear.

The man heading Salomon's approach is Christian Purslow, an upstart corporate financier who came to prominence last year for an utterly shambolic and ultimately fruitless attempt to flog Formula One. So is his client Bernie Ecclestone? Apparently not. Who then? Not saying, comes the riposte, but the bid will be debt financed.

Oh really? Any rival would have to pay a minimum £650m, this for a company with minimal earnings. No one in their right mind would attempt leverage in such circumstances.

Still, there must be someone

out there, surely. After painstaking and costly research, we have at last unmasked the mystery bidder. It is Micky Mouse as part of a consortium offer with Ernest Saunders.

British-Borneo

THE FORMATION of British-Borneo Oil & Gas does not have quite the same ring or breathtaking scale of, say, the BP-Amoco merger. But in a small way, it will have as much, indeed perhaps more, significance for the minnows that swim around in the second tier of the oil exploration sector.

Not that British-Borneo used to be that small. Until the collapse in oil prices, British Borneo was worth not far short of £1bn, against a closing value last night of half that.

As the name suggests, British-Borneo has a colonial pedigree - it was founded in 1912 on the strength of a fistful of exploration licenses for what was then British North Borneo, and is now part of east Malaysia. Later it was turned into what was effectively an investment trust, staying that way until 1989, when the tax perks ran out and the present chief executive, Alan

Gaynor, brought it back to life as an active exploration company.

Yesterday's agreed all-paper acquisition of Hardy Oil & Gas marks a modest attempt to recreate the glory days of Empire. The press release bangs on about strategic, asset and cash flow fit. On paper at least, the merger looks a compelling blend of British-Borneo's production flow from the Gulf of Mexico with Hardy's longer-term portfolio of interests and whiz-bang technology.

The deal also offers a dignified exit for Hardy, which sweated to get its £66m rights issue away in July. With the collapse in the oil price, Hardy is struggling to keep its head above water. For British Borneo, however, there is the prospect only earnings dilution, for the time being at least - hence yesterday's 13 per cent retreat in the shares. There is a need for consolidation in the exploration sector, but less of an appetite for yet more shares. For one of the oil majors, Hardy represents nothing more than spare change. Industrial logic is no substitute for value, and if someone could be persuaded to pay cash for Hardy, they could have it for a song.

IN BRIEF

Travis forecasts building slowdown

THE UK building industry is heading for a slowdown next year, hit by the recent rises in interest rates and the general economic downturn, Travis Perkins, the country's third largest builders' merchant, warned yesterday.

Tony Travis, chairman, said that despite bullish statements from housebuilders and construction companies, he was cautious on the outlook for 1999. The cumulative impact of higher mortgage rates and macroeconomic uncertainty was already having an effect on the property and housing markets.

His comments came after Travis Perkins reported a 15.5 per cent rise in interim pre-tax profits to £26.12m on turnover up 13 per cent to £604.5m. Shares in Travis Perkins rose 4p to 416.5p.

Job cuts warning

BRITISH POLYTHENE Industries yesterday warned further job cuts could be necessary at the packaging group, which has closed or disposed of five sites and declared 500 redundancies since January. Cameron McLatchie, chairman, said the first-half results, which saw a 1.8 per cent rise in pre-tax profits for six months to 30 June 1998, were a good performance in a difficult market, with the strength of sterling, reductions in raw material prices and the wet summer all affecting trading.

Higher water bills

NORTHUMBERLAND WATER will be able to increase bills from next April to finance obligations to higher standards of sewage treatment, the water regulator, Ofwat, confirmed yesterday. Ian Bayt, director-general of water services, said customers' bills would be £8.65 higher than expected as a result of the measure, which allows the company to raise prices, on average, by a maximum of 0.7 per cent above inflation for one year only.

Cab sales soar

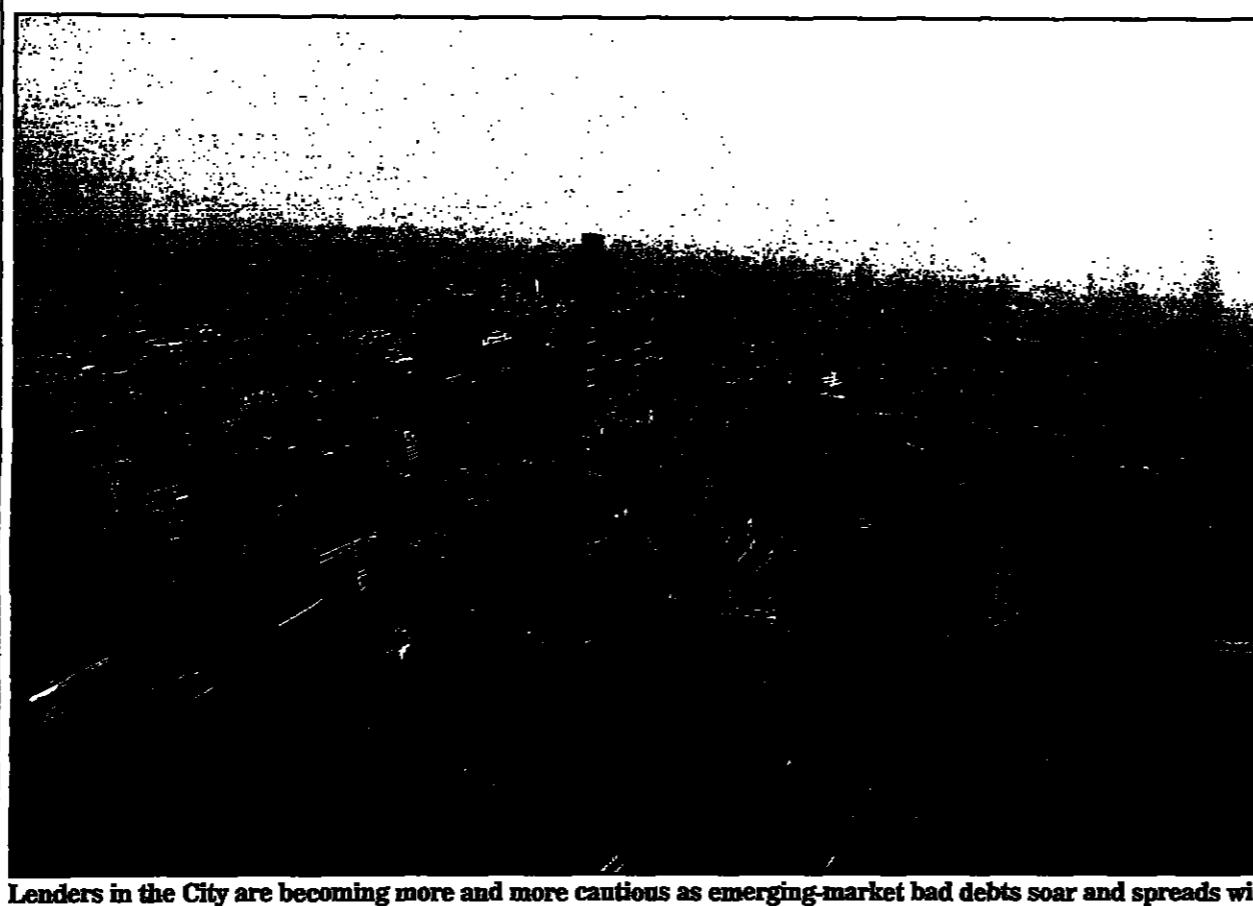
SALES at Manganese Bronze accelerated to record levels after the launch of its new TX1 London taxi last October; the black cab maker said yesterday. Profits before tax fell from £2.3m to £5m for the year to 31 July. Hugh Lang, chairman, said the fall was due to higher than expected costs of introducing the first completely new model for many years.

However, turnover rose 13 per cent to £15.0m, climbing 29 per cent in the second half as taxi sales rose 24 per cent year-on-year to 1,803.

IBM weighs sale

INTERNATIONAL Business Machines said it may sell its Global Network business to focus on software and services related to the computer network. The company said it has been talking with "a number of interested parties, including major telecommunications companies". Merrill Lynch is advising it on the sale. The statement comes two weeks after people familiar with the plan said IBM, the world's biggest computer maker, was looking to sell the network for \$3bn to \$4bn.

Is a credit crunch coming?



Lenders in the City are becoming more and more cautious as emerging-market bad debts soar and spreads widen

BY ANDREW GARFIELD AND LEA PATERSON

WHEN BARCLAYS' chief executive, Martin Taylor, warned last month that the losses sustained by Western banks in Russia could spark a global credit crunch that could drive us into recession, not everyone was convinced. But the prophecy is coming true, faster than even Mr Taylor feared.

The Russian default and the knock-on effect on banks elsewhere has raised fears of further defaults that have made lenders, especially in the wholesale markets, extremely jittery. Credit is starting to dry up worldwide.

On Friday, Lehman Brothers, the Wall Street investment bank, was having to reassure creditors about its financial solidity after rival banks called in credit lines because of speculation about dramatic losses in the Latin American markets.

Bankers say it is a sign of things to come. Already some of the smaller American hedge funds have gone under. Lenders are worried who will be next.

Commentators talk of a flight to safety. The trouble is no-one knows quite who or what is

safe anymore. People thought British banks had steered clear of Russia, only to find Barclays having to provide £250m for losses in the Russian bond market.

There are tales of dealers who piled into Portuguese bonds after the emerging markets started to go sour, on the grounds that, as a prospective member of the euro, escudo bonds were safe as the proverbial houses. Now the Portuguese central bank is having to intervene in the foreign exchanges to keep the currency on target and they are nursing some painful losses.

The day before, the story was of a US Treasury futures dealer for another bulge bracket firm who had called the market wrong and was in up to his necks. This is a market where, if you hear that a bulge bracket firm is about to file for Chapter 11, you order your dealer to pull the plug fast and only then get on the phone.

Collateral! The hedge funds had that look where it got them. Hedges? In the roughest bond crisis, they were worthless.

1999 vintages when the bond matures over four years from 2001. The bond was launched by Giovanni Geddes di Filicaja, chief executive officer of Marchesi de' Frescobaldi SpA, floats an ECU100m wine bond issue.

The bond offers a cost-price option on forthcoming vintages of its prized Brunello di Montalcino Castel Giocondo.

"This is not the same as the wine futures, which have become so fashionable in France," said Mr Filicaja.

"This is a genuine financial instrument, which to date has

only been used once before by the Antinori winemakers, who did not float theirs internationally."

The bond, to be handled by the Italian investment bank Mediobanca, will be placed in Italy, Switzerland, France and other European markets, Mr Filicaja said.

The funds will be used to expand production facilities at the company's Pomito estate, north-east of Florence, where the ancient Florentine wine-producing family has been active for centuries, said Vittorio Frescobaldi, the chairman of the company.

"This is not the same as the wine futures, which have become so fashionable in France," said Mr Filicaja.

"This is a genuine financial instrument, which to date has

up in both equity and bond markets. One bond dealer said: "We are seeing stuff here that no one will buy at any price."

The key indicator of the market's appetite for risk is the spreads, or prices quoted on high-yielding debt instruments, where swaps, futures and bonds are glowing red. Spreads have jumped as much as 4-5 per cent for sterling-denominated bonds over the last month.

Sterling bonds have been hit harder than either dollar or euro bonds. Even blue-chip lenders are paying as much as half a percentage point more than they were a month ago.

The problem has been exacerbated by the explosion of the derivatives market over recent years, which has made big corporates and financial institutions far more dependent on the vagaries of global capital flows.

The value of the swaps market at the end of 1997 was \$30 trillion, about eight times the stock of international debt. Big investors are heavily dependent on these markets to fund trades and provide hedges.

Some say that this is purely a problem for the hedge funds and the investment banks, who deserve all they are now getting. Michael Foot, head of banking supervision at the Financial Services Authority, which in June took over the role of overseer of the UK banking system, remains sanguine.

Mergers and acquisitions activity will fall sharply in the UK and the US, he says, and there will obviously be a slowdown in new share issues. "That would be bad news for investment bankers but any productive value-added activity is not immediately apparent."

Britain's banks are by global standards relatively well capitalized. Clearly the average overdraft is not about to be called in, nor are we about to see a rash of foreclosures among otherwise solvent small and medium-sized companies. But the immediate impact on the City is considerable and the Square Mile remains a huge wealth generator not just for London but for the UK as a whole.

Andy Blackmore

ECC in £100m share buy-back plan

BY FRANCESCO GUERRERA

ENGLISH CHINA Clays (ECC), the chemicals and minerals group, is planning a return of cash to shareholders of around £100m through a share buy-back in a bid to prop up its ailing share price.

The company - the world's largest producer of kaolin, a soft clay used in paper and ceramics - said yesterday that it was considering "a significant repurchase of shares". It is understood that ECC could buy back up to 20 per cent of its shares - a move that would cost about £100m at yesterday's closing price. The bulk of the buy-back is set to take place after April 1999 to take advantage of tax changes, according to sources close to the company.

Lawrence Urquhart, chairman, said the board decided to return cash to shareholders after being "disappointed by the company's share price performance".

ECC made a large loss in 1996 after a radical overhaul of its key businesses. It returned to the black last year but the turnaround failed to trigger a recovery in the share price.

Shares in ECC have fallen by almost a half since their 12-month peak of 290.5p in October, amid a general downgrade of the extraction sector and concerns over weaker mineral prices.

They rebounded 18.5p to 163.5p yesterday, buoyed by news of the share buyback and the release of interim results in line with City analysts' expectations.

ECC reported a 5 per cent increase in pre-tax profit to £43.5m on turnover up slightly to £417.2m. Sales in its core minerals division jumped 5 per cent in the first half, but prices remained subdued, ECC said.

The company also announced the acquisition of Minco, a US ceramics business, for \$23m (£17.5m).

Patrick Drayton, finance director, said the purchase was part of ECC's strategy of growing through bolt-on acquisitions. He said the company could spend up to £53m by the end of the year on similar acquisitions.

CLASSIFIED

No 10454 of 1998

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

CHANCERY DIVISION

COMPANIES COUR

IN THE MATTER OF TOM HOBINS PLC

AND

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the

Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 2nd September 1998 confirming the reduction of capital of the above named Company from £4,190,524.30 to £4,000,000.00 and the reduction of the share premium account of the Company from £96,367 to £38,965 and the Minister approved by the Court showing with respect to the capital of the Company as altered the several particulars required by the Companies Act were registered by the Registrar of Companies on 7th September 1998.

Dated this 7th day of September 1998.

Le Brasser J. Tadic

Dairy House

34-43 Russell Street

London WC1B 3HA

Telephone 0171 836 0099

Poppleton Allen Solicitors

for and on behalf of the applicant

37 Stoney Street, Lace Market,

Nottingham NG1 1LS

Solicitors for the above named Company

Not wonderful, but better than most

A WEEK in Tokyo helps put the problems of the rest of the world in perspective. While the relative decline in economic activity has been much greater in Indonesia, Russia and now, it seems, Brazil, the absolute decline has been far greater in Japan than anywhere else in the world.

The scale and nature of the Japanese recession is discussed in the second section of this paper, but the experience of seeing the concern of the Japanese business community does not just put our quite modest troubles in perspective. It also puts into perspective the rolling recession into which the world seems to be sliding.

Seen from London what has been happening in Japan ought to have been the most serious shock the world economy has experienced. The collapse of the East Asian emerging market economies was both dramatic and painful.

A large chunk of the middle class will have seen their savings wiped out. But without in any way trying to minimise the human and political importance of this catastrophe, from a world economic viewpoint it did not seem to matter very much.



HAMISH MCRAE

The easiest way to understand the links is that each crash is just 'one more damn thing'

The East Asian emerging economies were dazzling performers, but most of them were tiny. Their weight in terms of world output was too small to affect the whole.

Or so it seemed. What few of us spotted was the scale of the link into the Japanese economy - the extent to which Japanese companies used these countries as suppliers, the extent to which they had become

competitors, and the extent to which Japanese banks had financed their expansion. But even allowing for all that, the decline ought not to have hit Japan as hard as it has.

So what happened? I think the easiest way to understand both the link between emerging East Asia and Japan, and the links between the collapses in Russia and Brazil and the rest of the world is that each crash is "one more damn thing".

If we do indeed have a full world recession over the next two to three years - as opposed to the partial world recession which is happening now - it will be because each bit of bad news, while unimportant in isolation, takes on seismic importance when piled on top of another.

Last month it was Russia than tipped the US markets from concern into terror. Russia itself does not matter in economic terms, though of course it remains vital in geopolitical and military terms.

But people started adding up the sums and realising that if you wrote off the full debts owed to many international banks you wiped out a large portion of their year's profits. Then they thought, wait a minute,

we ought to do the same sort of calculation for other dodgy external debts, like Brazil or Venezuela.

It may be irrational for the currency crisis of Russia to spread to Latin America - the only real parallel is that both regions face explosive political situations - but that is what seems to have happened. Add up the doubtful debts and suddenly the position of perfectly solid banks looks decidedly unpleasant.

Now I am not saying that there is a generalised global banking crisis, as there is in Japan. But banks the world over are going to be very careful in their lending for the next three or four years, maybe longer. This is one indication of a change in the global investment mood, a change that the London economics team at HSBC has called "a new sobriety".

There is nothing wrong with being sober. Indeed, had the world banking and investment community been rather more sober over the past three years the East Asian boom would have been more muted and the scale of the subsequent collapse less grave.

The difficulty is that an excess of sobriety is almost as destructive to the world economy as an excess of excess. If we do experience a rolling world recession, where each bit of bad news is piled on top of the last so that finally even the relatively solid economies of North America and western Europe are ground down, then the financial system will have to take its share of the blame.

How does Britain appear through the prism of these newly sober market operators? Three factors seem to distinguish the UK economy at the moment.

The first is that thanks to the much-reviled surge in interest rates, we may have managed to chip the top off the boom. Sure, manufacturing has had a miserable time, but that was collateral damage in the effort to curb the services' boom. In the past month or so it has seemed the service side is heading down a bit too. We are no longer such a dual economy. The sentiment of retailers (see chart) has now fallen to the same sort of level that it was at during the last recession.

That does not necessarily mean a recession is on the way, although obvious is a risk. But it does just better than most.

mean that there is beginning to be a domestic case for interest rate cuts.

Second, we still have some inflation so that by cutting nominal interest rates it is possible to cut real rates. In a world of deflation and falling prices, cutting interest rates is pushing on a string, for you may simply find that prices fall even faster, so real rates do not fall at all. Given the close link between short-term interest rates, house prices and domestic demand, we may be better placed to pump up demand should the rolling recession roll over us.

And third, we still retain policy freedom - in fact, we probably have more room for manoeuvre than any other G7 country, including the US. We can cut rates and try and reduce the exchange rate. We have a sound fiscal position and so we could try to boost demand that way. And we have a relatively flexible economy, unlike continental Europe and Japan, which ought to respond to policy changes.

It is not a bad position to be in, if as sadly looks more likely by the week, the world economy does continue to deteriorate. Not wonderful; just better than most.

Tougher code for banks is open to abuse

BANKING CUSTOMERS were yesterday warned that a new code designed to protect them from unfair practices contained loopholes that left it open to abuse by high street banks.

The country's banks and building societies yesterday launched a tougher banking code which claims to stamp out abuses such as lowering interest rates on existing savings accounts while failing to tell customers of new accounts with better rates.

The code was introduced after a furious protest by customers of Northern Rock, the newly converted building society. Customers were shocked to learn they had been switched into new accounts with different notice periods and, in many cases, lower interest rates.

Some banks are also alleged to have told staff not to let customers know about new accounts with better interest rates, allowing them to pay lower interest to millions of customers on accounts they deemed "obsolete". The practice, known as portfolio management, can save banks millions of pounds a year.

The code claims to ban the use of obsolete accounts. It re-

quires banks to raise interest rates on existing accounts to the same level as a new account - but only if it is "similar" to the old one. If it is not similar, they must write to customers offering the opportunity to switch.

But industry figures warned that banks can circumvent the rules by tweaking the terms on new accounts so they are not "similar". Customers may also fail to respond to letters about the terms of their accounts.

Brian Davis, chief executive of Nationwide, said: "The danger is that it will legitimise the use of obsolete accounts. Because you have written to people and told them you have done it, it will be considered OK. But the principle is that you shouldn't do it in the first place."

Although the code was welcomed as "a step forward", others also warned it could be abused in practice.

David Anderson, chief executive of Yorkshire building society, said banks and building societies "must go with the spirit as well as the letter of the code. Some people will try it on but I am sure people will be watching."

IN BRIEF

Asian downturn forces Morgan Crucible to sell division

MORGAN CRUCIBLE is to sell its specialty materials unit to focus on its carbon and ceramics businesses, the hi-tech equipment maker said yesterday. The Windsor-based maker of fire bricks, ceramics and carbon electronics equipment said the decision to sell the specialty division, which produces advanced lubricants, metalworking products and electronic components for the aerospace, nuclear, telecoms and military industries, followed the economic downturn in Asia, where Morgan has several units. Morgan Crucible shares rose 6p, or 2 per cent, to 301p, after the company reported a 3.5 per cent rise in first-half profits and said profit was likely to be higher in the second half, if only because of acquisitions.

Edinburgh development sold for £42m

MARYLEBONE Warwick Balfour has bought Fountain Park from Scottish & Newcastle and THL for £42m cash, the group announced yesterday. The Fountain Park commercial leisure development, currently under construction in the centre of Edinburgh, is 84 per cent pre-let to large tenants and is expected to generate annual rental income of approximately £2.9m, reflecting a prospective initial yield of 6.65 per cent. Marylebone Warwick Balfour said.

Second French acquisition for Weir

WEIR GROUP, the world's sixth biggest pump-maker, has made its second bolt-on acquisition in France within a month, buying Schahaver from Sterling Fluid Systems for Fr47m (£5m). Weir said Schahaver and its associated company, Fabricmecan, would complement the slurry pump operations of its EnviroTech Pumpsystems unit. Last month it paid Fr80m for Sebim Holding, a family-owned valve and actuator manufacturer. Weir said the Schahaver deal would increase its manufacturing network to 30 plants in 14 countries.

Slumberland group raises £524,000

FRENCH, the soft furnishing group which makes Slumberland bed products, is to place 1.31 million shares to raise £524,000, it said yesterday. The shares have been privately placed with investors at 40p per ordinary share. The placing, subject to shareholder approval, would enable it to develop its UK businesses, reduce borrowings and provide additional working capital, the group said. It also said the loss declared at the interim stage would increase because of provisions.

Vanguard Medica shares fall

SHARES in Vanguard Medica fell 10p to 320p after it said it intended to stop developing two psoriasis treatments, the compounds, VML 295 and VML 302. Vanguard said its decision followed a re-evaluation of the commercial potential of these compounds on completion of phase two studies.

**Lower business phone bills. That's a promise.
(Business made simpler.)**

At Cable & Wireless we believe there should be no need to do difficult sums to get lower phone bills for your business. That means: no complex choices to make, no need to change your phone numbers, no acrobatics to perform if your business grows or changes. We think it should be simple.

That's why Cable & Wireless has straightforward prices for businesses, each one including all your discounts as standard. And, when you make the change from BT, our Price Promise® is there to give you complete peace of mind: very simply, we promise you will save money.

We also think it's common sense that you should benefit further if you buy more than one service from us. So, if you choose Cable & Wireless for your mobile phones as well as your office phones, you'll save a further 10% on the calls you make to people on the move.

Make your business life simpler - contact us directly by phone or by visiting our Web site. Alternatively, complete the coupon and fax or post us your details.

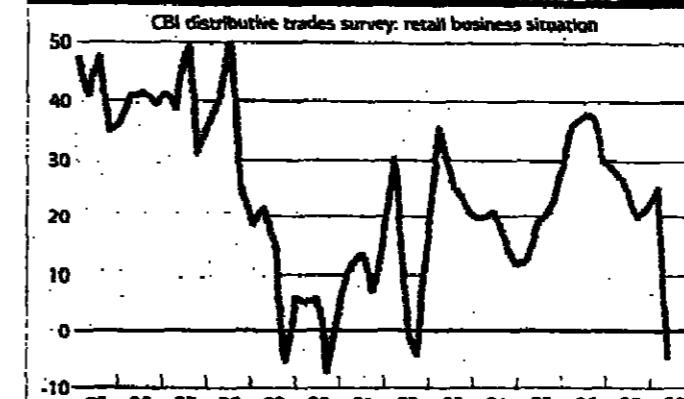
FreeCall 0800 096 5555
www.business-made-simpler.co.uk

Cable & Wireless is a British company which is a world-wide provider of mobile, voice and data solutions. Our aim is to lead the world in integrated communications.

* Price Promise applies to MetroLink, ULLink and GlobalLink business tariffs. Comparison is against BT Business Choices and an average combination of Key Countries, Key Cities, Key Regions and Key Numbers discount rates. Comparisons exclude line rental and temporary promotions.

Call us for full details.

THE DOWNTURN HITS UK RETAILERS



mean that there is beginning to be a domestic case for interest rate cuts.

Second, we still have some inflation so that by cutting nominal interest rates it is possible to cut real rates. In a world of deflation and falling prices, cutting interest rates is pushing on a string, for you may simply find that prices fall even faster, so real rates do not fall at all. Given the close link between short-term interest rates, house prices and domestic demand, we may be better placed to pump up demand should the rolling recession roll over us.

And third, we still retain policy freedom - in fact, we probably have more room for manoeuvre than any other G7 country, including the US. We can cut rates and try and reduce the exchange rate. We have a sound fiscal position and so we could try to boost demand that way. And we have a relatively flexible economy, unlike continental Europe and Japan, which ought to respond to policy changes.

It is not a bad position to be in, if as sadly looks more likely by the week, the world economy does continue to deteriorate. Not wonderful; just better than most.



Yes, please tell me how Cable & Wireless will make business simpler for me.

Return to:

Cable & Wireless, FREEPOST NWW 499A, Warrington WA2 0BR
or photocopy and FREEFAX to: 0800 056 3401

Title: Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms (delete as applicable)

First Name: _____

Surname: _____

Job Title: _____

Company Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Business Phone Number: _____

Fax Number: _____

Email: _____

The Independent 15/9/98

CABLE & WIRELESS

Footsie rebounds on takeover action

FOOTSEE ACHIEVED a 150-point rebound as corporate activity reappeared and overseas developments looked more encouraging.

New York, up more than 200 as London closed on expectations that President Clinton will survive, was a major influence. The Japanese move to reshape its banking system, signs that Russia could be moving towards stability and indications that Helmut Kohl may cling to power in Germany were other favourable factors.

But there is nothing like a round of old-fashioned takeover activity to inspire a stock market, particularly one bedevilled by fears that the good days are over.

Much of the bid action occurred in two heavily depressed sectors, oil and textiles. British-Borneo's £900m-plus merger with Hardy Oil & Gas coincided with Courtaulds Textiles' takeover talks with troubled Claremont Garments and a move to take woollen group John Haggas back into private ownership.

Harris dived 15p to 180.5p but British-Borneo lost 22p to 209.5p. Claremont rose 6p to 22.5p and Haggas 15.5p to 56.5p. Courtaulds shaded 3p to 162p.

MARKET REPORT



DEREK PAIN

Alvis, the armoured vehicles group, and the much bigger GKN confirmed weekend speculation of a new grouping. The most likely development is Alvis buying GKN's armoured side in exchange for shares, with GKN emerging as the major shareholder in the enlarged group. Alvis rose 25p to 197.5p after 200. GKN firm 6p to 62.5p.

With the market still football crazy the "funny old game" remained in the centre circle. Tottenham Hotspur gained 13p to 85p after it transpired that chairman

Alan Sugar had turned down an 80p-a-share offer from ENIC, up 5p to 150p. Sheffield United, a division one club, scored the day's best gain, 61.9 per cent to 34p, after admitting it was in talks which could lead to private investors pumping cash into the business.

The rush for football shares, sparked off by Rupert Murdoch's descent on Manchester United, provided further strength for Leicester City, up 7.5p to 44.5p; Southampton Leisure, 7.5p to 64.5p, and Burnden Leisure (Bolton Wanderers), 4.5p to 23.5p.

Newcastle United, said to be talking to a range of media groups, jumped 18p to 107p and ManU, with Salomon Smith Barney threatening to produce a rival bidder to the Murdoch-controlled BSkyB offer, rose another 6.5p to 228p.

Vaux, one of the market's most whiskered bid stocks, frothed 11.5p higher to 228p as it called on its brewing side to concentrate on its bottles and higher-margin pubs.

Footsie was in positive mood from the start, encouraged by New York's Friday recovery. When transatlantic shares resumed their ad-

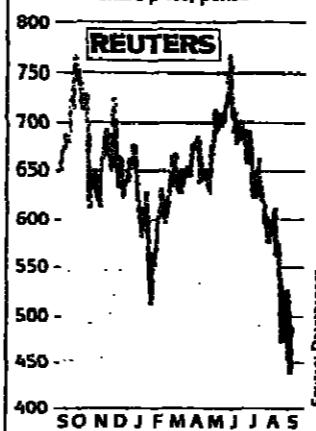
vance it threw off any hesitancy, ending at 5,268.6. A number of big programme trades helped to swell turnover and were generally more buy than sell exercises. The supporting shares, however, were left

ALAN SUGAR may be immersed in the affairs of the takeover bid candidate Tottenham Hotspur, where he is chairman, but he is taking time out to meet electronics analysts in connection with his original operation. As chairman of the Amstrad electronics equipment group he plans to hold an investment meeting later this month. The shares firmed 1.25p to 29p; a few months ago they were 58.5p.

behind. The mid cap index gained 33.4 to 4,738.7 and the small cap could manage only a 6 advance to 2,094.

Underperforming Rentex, helped along by Warburg Dillon Read, jumped 42p to 790p and Hays was lifted 67p to 822p by strong results.

SHARE SPOTLIGHT



Pearson rose 40p to 1,090p after BT Alex Brown said the media group had made a "flying start" to the year and put a 12-month target of 1,120p on the shares.

What appeared to be a rogue late trade - 583 shares at 790p - boosted building materials group RMC and the shares closed at 790p, up 65p. Most of the late afternoon trades were around 740p.

Unilever, the Anglo-Dutch giant, firmed 11p to 550p ahead of London meetings with analysts next week; US presentations are due in a few weeks. Hillsdown, splitting into three, is another holding briefings.

COULD A rival bid appear for Robert Walters, the recruitment group. Interestingly the rival PSD operation has quietly lifted its Walters stake to 1.7 per cent through Salomon Smith Barney. Since a US group made what is in effect a share exchange offer the value of the bid has slumped and Walters shares have fallen from approaching 400p to 306p. They have been as high as 574.5p.

The shares shaded 2p to 131.5p.

Jarvis Hotels, a shambler at 115p, was also holding investment meetings. The market expects profits of around £34m (£31.5m).

Vodafone, reflecting recent investiment meetings and bid hopes,

jumped 37p to 804p, and Norwich Union was another inspired by expectations of corporate action, improving 38p to 467p.

Ahead of results today, the pub chain JD Wetherspoon dipped 10p to 167.5p; Thomson Travel fell 5.5p to 135p on its maiden figures.

Ladbroke entered 15.75p to 240p. A monopoly decision on the betting and hotel group's takeover of the Coral betting shops from Bass is due this week. Bass was one of the few blue chips to give ground, off 18p to 817p on worries about its hotel spread. Imperial Chemical Industries was another easing 11p to 555p on Merrill Lynch caution.

Peterhouse, a construction group, hardened 2p to 62.5p after Williams de Broe calculated a sum-of-the-parts valuation of 180p with a short-term target of 120p.

Creighton, the toiletries group, made a slippery return. Suspended at 23.5p while it attempted to take over the Potter & Moore toiletries group, the shares traded at 10p.

SEAG VOLUME: 922 million
SEAG TRADES: 62,608
GILT'S INDEX: 5.5

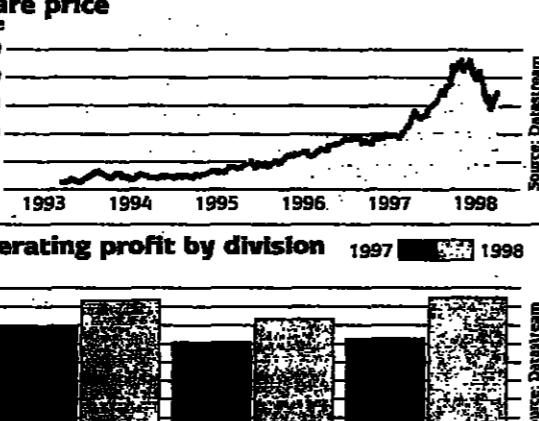
Hays shrugs off the threat of recession

INVESTMENT

EDITED BY NIGEL COPE

HAYS GROUP: AT A GLANCE

	Market value: £3.78bn, share price 882p (+67p)
Trading record	1994 1995 1996 1997 1998
Turnover (£bn)	0.63 0.81 0.97 1.13 1.55
Pre-tax profits (£m)	87.80 110.30 132.04 147.80 197.30
Earnings per share (p)	14.70 18.70 22.30 24.90 33.30
Dividends per share (p)	6.10 7.00 8.10 9.30 10.70



BRITAIN MAY be in danger of talking itself into recession, but speak to Sir Ronnie Frost, chief executive of Hays, the logistics and commercial services group. A far more optimistic view emerges. His view is that there is no danger of recession and that Hays' figures do not even hint at a slowdown.

In any event, he says, Hays does well in a slump, because businesses are encouraged to contract out services. Two of Hays' businesses, distribution and commercial services such as document handling, tend to benefit from a slowdown with only the personnel division an obvious hostage to the economic cycle. But even personnel, which supplies technical staff such as accountants and civil engineers, enjoyed a record August.

Hays has weathered the market storms well so far. The shares are some way off their peak despite yesterday's 67p bounce to 882p but have still outperformed the market by 30 per cent over the past 12 months.

Full-year profits were up by 30 per cent to £201m before exceptional items and each of the three main divisions enjoyed good organic growth. Distribution profits rose by 23 per cent; commercial by 24 per cent and personnel by 41 per cent. There was a 24m charge for the reorganisation of acquired businesses while £216m was spent on debt and capital expenditure during the year.

The UK is still Hays' biggest market and the distribution business has recently targeted petrol retailers and signed deals with Shell and BP to supply their forecast retailing operations.

But Europe is the key to growth and will probably be the focus of acquisitions. Two-thirds of the logistics revenue already comes from the Continent and the commercial business will be built up in markets such as France and Germany. Hays is also in talks over a personnel acquisition in Europe to add to the French recruitment firm Alpha TEC acquired earlier this year.

On full-year forecasts of £330m, the shares trade on a for-

ward rating of 23. A deserved premium to the market but not more than a hold at those levels.

A bumpy ride with Thomson

THE HALF a million holidaymakers who bought shares in Thomson Travel must be feeling as if they have been hit by a particularly nasty bout of jet-lag. When it was floated off the Canadian Thomson group in May, Thomson Travel shares were priced at 170p. They then shot up to 189p within two weeks, causing hives of protest from another half a million would-be shareholders who missed the over-subscribed offering. But by the end of August, the stock lost over a quarter of its value and slumped to around 130p, underperforming a declining market.

Travel company share prices are always hit by fears of a slow-

down in consumer spending. Thomson was also hit in August by bad news from Sweden, when rival operator Airtours warned that its Swedish acquisition, SLG, had run into problems accounted for the bulk of the shortfall. Sales were also down as Asia and currencies took their toll. The shares took a predictable tumble and ended 16p down at a year's low of 245p.

The management is doing all the right things to combat this rout, reducing costs through increased outsourcing and greater efficiencies. Optimists also point out that the semiconductor market is highly cyclical and will rebound sharply in the medium term. Fairey's position as the market leader or runner-up in most of its businesses should also stand it in good stead when conditions improve in one or two years' time.

But until then it is difficult to say upside for the shares. On a multiple of around 12.5x, they are a good long-term punt, but for the time being they are no more than a hold.

"We've used these in the

exceptional. Thomson says, though some analysts are starting to wonder.

ABN Amro forecasts 9.3p per share for the full year, putting the company on a p/e for 1998/99 of nearly 15. This is a 20 per cent discount to the market's prospective p/e of 19. Hold.

Fairey finds the going tough

FAIREY IS a classic example of a well-managed company that has been savaged by trading conditions. The electronic engineer is exposed to all three of the evils that have hampered manufacturers of late.

For a start, it is a big supplier of products to the semiconductor industry, whose output has been dramatically squeezed by overcapacity. It is also a sizeable exporter to Asia. To cap it all, the strength of the dollar and the pound reduces its profits on translation, while sales go to cheaper importers.

These three factors were highlighted in yesterday's interim results. Pre-tax profits fell 31 per cent to £16.5m. The weakness among chip producers accounted for the bulk of the shortfall. Sales were also down as Asia and currencies took their toll. The shares took a predictable tumble and ended 16p down at a year's low of 245p.

The management is doing all the right things to combat this rout, reducing costs through increased outsourcing and greater efficiencies. Optimists also point out that the semiconductor market is highly cyclical and will rebound sharply in the medium term.

Fairey's position as the market leader or runner-up in most of its businesses should also stand it in good stead when conditions improve in one or two years' time.

But until then it is difficult to say upside for the shares. On a multiple of around 12.5x, they are a good long-term punt, but for the time being they are no more than a hold.

"We've used these in the

A firm grip on outer space

PEOPLE AND BUSINESS

BY JOHN WILLCOCK



PETER MANDELSON carries many responsibilities on his shoulders as Secretary of State for Trade and Industry. Not many people realise, however, that one of these duties is to licence and maintain a register of all "objects sent into Outer Space" by British citizens.

The Outer Space Act 1986 (Fees) (Amendment) Regulations 1998 came into force at the end of the month, relating to a new range of fees that you will have to pay if you want to send your home-made rocket skyward into the heavens.

The Act applies to anyone in the UK "launching or procuring the launch of a space object; operating a space object; (and) any activity in outer space".

According to the Parliamentary Daily List announcing the amendment to the Act last week, "the Secretary of State shall maintain a register of space objects". Furthermore, no British subject shall send an object into outer space "except under the authority of a licence granted by the Secretary of State".

The List adds with admirable thoroughness that "outer space" includes the moon and other celestial bodies; and "space object" includes "the component parts of a space object, its launch vehicle and the components parts of that". I'm sure Mr Mandelson has got his celestial objects all firmly under control.

WHEN Mike Hannigan, an executive in the property development side of Standard Life's investment department, flew south from his Edinburgh base recently to supervise the opening of a new £90m shopping centre in Brighton, the biggest problem on his mind was

past, and its solves the problems that these birds can create for glazed roofs", says Mr Hannigan. "The hawks have quite a long term impact. Quite a few football stadiums do the same thing. You bring the hawks along once every couple of months, and the pigeons learn to associate the place with them."

Falconry "may be 2,000 years old but it has withstood the test of time", he says happily.

Daniel Jubb claimed a record with his home-made rocket but now he needs a licence from Mandelson

JOHNAITKEN, one of the City's leading banking analysts, is suing his former employer, Union Bank of Switzerland, over a £730,000 bonus which fell victim to the "merger" between SBC Warburg and the old UBS.

Mr Aitken joined Rabobank earlier this year after the merger, and became one of around 50 UBS analysts who were un-wanted by the new bank.

MOST OF the people from Teather & Greenwood, the expanding private client stockbrokers, were at the Chiswell Street Brewery in the City yesterday for the annual "Smaller Companies Show". This is an opportunity for about 50 companies to exhibit and get to know each other. As a spokesman for the broker put it: "They are mostly clients, or where not, we live in hope."

COMPANY RESULTS

Name	Turnover (£)	Pre-tax (£)	EPS	Dividend	Pay day	X-div
Altair Laptops (F)	41.65m (2.33m)	4.35m (2.31m)	1.65p (1.0p)	16.04.93	£2.12m	
Alpha Petroleum (F)	27.77m (17.17m)	1.13m (0.76m)	0.09p (0.04p)	10.11.98	£1.12m	
Anglo American (F)	249.55m (19.85m)	11.32m (7.02m)	1.12p (0.72p)	17.11.98	£1.22m	
Arco (F)	22.35m (10.85m)	0.83m (0.72m)	0.08p (0.07p)	15.07.98	£1.22m	
Ashtead (F)	12.85m (12.21m)	0.60m (0.103m)	0.39p (0.29p)	16.10.98	£1.05m	
Avon Rubber (F)	121.55m (119.91m)	4.25m (3.42m)	3.3p (3.05p)	29.10.98	£2.01m</td	

SPORT

Golf: Professional learning curve is proving a steep one for teenager who passed his Open test with flying colours

Graduate Rose goes back to school

BY ANDY FARRELL

GIVE TALENT the chance to perform without pressure and even on the greatest stage wonderful things can happen. Justin Rose showed exactly that at the Open. To finish fourth, the highest placing by an amateur for 45 years, was a brilliant achievement. Now for something completely different.

This morning, at the Nick Faldo-designed Chart Hills course near Biddenden in Kent, Rose starts the gruelling marathon that is the Qualifying School. This is one of sport's hardest schools. Around 600 players have entered, only 35 will get their tour cards giving them the right to play on the European tour next season.

It could take anything up to 12 rounds to achieve. The first stage, known as PQ1, takes place this week at five venues around the country. At each site 120 players will compete over 54 holes for around 10 spots into the finals in southern Spain in November.

Those that fail will go on to PQ2 in Spain in October for another three rounds. The finals themselves are played out over six rounds. Among the 180 players who tee off will be experienced pros who have failed to retain their cards from the main tour; those who make an annual pilgrimage but return to the mini-tours and regional PGA events, as well as those just starting out on their professional careers.

The 72-hole cut, which slices the field down to around 70, must be

PRO AND CONS	
<i>In his six events as a professional, Justin Rose has missed the cut each time:</i>	
77 65	missed by 1
Scandinavian Masters	missed by 1
71 75	missed by 1
European Open	missed by 2
76 75	missed by 2
BMW International	missed by 7
70 79	missed by 7
European Masters	missed by 7
70 77	missed by 7
British Masters	missed by 5
80 70	missed by 5

made or nothing has been gained but a few mental scars. For those that remain but fail to get into the top 35, there is the consolation of a place on the Challenge Tour, where you can gain experience if not money.

Those at the top of the game, the ones battling out the great championships, still refer back to the 'Q' School and the early days on tour trying to make a cut - those who do not qualify after 36 holes do not receive a cheque as the most pressurised times of their careers.

Rose has had a swift introduction. In his six tournaments as a professional, he has not yet played four full rounds.

He has found out that when making the cut becomes your target, it is one that suddenly becomes elusive. Co-incidentally Raymond Russell, the Scottish professional who also died for fourth place at Birkdale, has yet to make a cut since either.

This was not the case when Rose finished 44th at the Benson and Hedges International in May. He would also have sailed past the cut at the European Grand Prix in June had the tournament not been washed out by rain. Those performances had planted the seed in Rose and his family's mind of turning pro should he make the cut at the Open.

That Birkdale turned into so much more made the decision inevitable. It is hard to believe that it was a performance Rose will never repeat again, but his one advantage over many of the pros was his amateur experience of playing tough links courses in strong winds. For a start, the publicity assured Rose of gaining the



Rose among the thorns again. The teenager has found that missing fairways has been one of his biggest problems since he made the decision to turn professional

maximum of seven allowed invitations on the tour. Should he have earned around £50,000 and finished in the top 116 on the order of merit, there would have been no need of going to the Qualifying School.

Although he has one more invitation left, it looks like the easier route has been closed. "I always knew I had two chances," Rose said. "I knew it would be difficult to win the amount of money I needed from seven tournaments. In 20 years hopefully I'll look back and nobody will be able to say I didn't do it the hard way."

Now though, it is crunch time. "This is more important than anything I have played so far," he said of PQ1. He has visited Chart Hills twice to familiarise himself with the venue. "It is a good test of golf but a fair test and that is all you can ask of a qualifying course."

Inevitably, Rose's confidence has taken a hit but he remains positive. "However disappointed you feel inside, you cannot show it on the outside," he said. "There are always positives, you just have to look hard enough for them. I am a stronger player than I was at the Open. You become a better player by going through the lows. It is difficult to put

your finger on why I haven't played well. I don't feel any different. I may be a professional but I am the same golfer."

Mentally, Rose admits to wandering a bit on the course and his driving has the same tendency. His percentage of fairways hit is too low. That does not mean he is in the trees all day. On a course like the Forest of Arden, where the straight-hitting

Colin Montgomerie won for the second time on Sunday, the fairways are narrow and to stay just a few feet off them is to find thick rough.

Did Rose, who turned 18 two weeks after the Open, leave the amateur ranks too young? In America, he would have gone to college on a scholarship for three or four years. Matt Kuchar, who starred at the US Masters and the US Open, thought

about turning pro but then decided to finish his last two years at university. Sergio Garcia, the 18-year-old British Amateur champion who finished joint 12th in the British Masters, will stay amateur until next April's US Masters.

Rose, the youngest to play in the Walker Cup at 17 last year, clearly felt he had learnt enough. Peter McEvoy, the England captain who almost

picked Rose for full international honours at the age of 14, felt he was too young, not just to play golf but to be a doctor or a policeman. The longevity of a golfing career is similar to non-sporting professions, and there is an apprenticeship to learn.

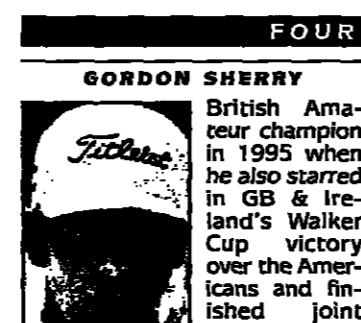
A year on the Challenge Tour, where only a handful do more than cover their costs in racing around Europe for low prize fund tournaments,

would be no bad thing. While disliked by British players who find it harder to get sponsorship than continental, with the right backing the experience can be a rewarding one in terms of preparation for life on the main tour.

But to get on to the Challenge Tour is hard enough and those who don't get that far are left in the wilderness of mini-tours, where the players' entry fees provide the prize fund.

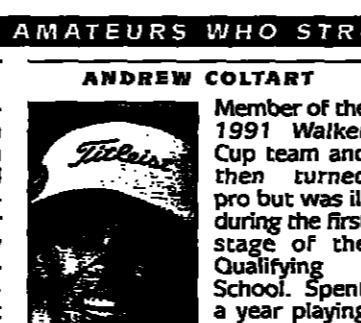
Golfing lore suggests that if you're good enough you'll make it eventually. It took Barry Lane, the Ryder Cup player, seven visits to the Qualifying School before establishing himself on tour. Others, like Jose Maria Olazabal and Lee Westwood, passed first time and never returned.

Wherever Rose ends up playing next year, he should have backing. Carnegie, his management company, report interest in the South African-born, Hampshire-raised player has not diminished despite the start to his pro career. The current asking price for a club contract is £1.5m. Rose has tried not to get involved. "All that matters is what I do on the golf course," he said. "If you do well, everything else takes care of itself."



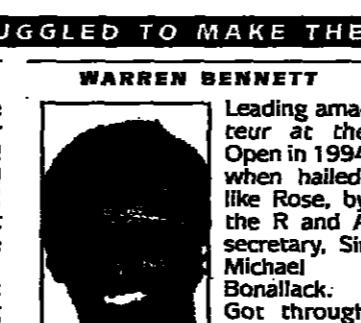
GORDON SHERRY
British Amateur champion in 1995 when he also started in GB & Ireland's Walker Cup victory over the Americans and finished joint fourth in the Scottish Open at Carnoustie.

Turned pro after the US Masters in '96 but suffered from glandular fever and could not make his card from invitations. Finished 62nd and 84th in the Qualifying School in the last two years. Now playing the Challenge Tour.



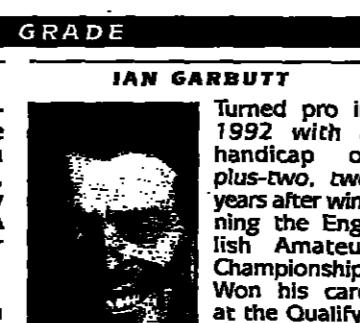
ANDREW COLTART
Member of the 1991 Walker Cup team and then turned pro but was ill during the first stage of the Qualifying School. Spent a year playing on Swedish Tour, got his card at the Q

school but had to return in '93. Has since kept his card, played for Scotland in the World and Dunhill Cups and won his maiden title, the Qatar Masters in March.



WARREN BENNETT
Leading amateur in 1991 when he was ill during the first stage of the Qualifying School. Spent a year playing on Swedish Tour, got his card at the Q

school but had to return in '93. Has since kept his card, played for Scotland in the World and Dunhill Cups and won his maiden title, the Qatar Masters in March.



IAN GARBUZZ
Turned pro in 1992 with a handicap of plus-two, two years after winning the English Amateur Championship. Won his card at the Qualifying School for '93 but finished 139th on the order of merit with £26,715 to lose it again. After three failed attempts at the Q School, the Doncaster man won the Challenge Tour order of merit last year after winning the UAP Grand Final.

With facts and not the emotional situation.

"Obviously Ferrari's reliability is exceptional, but we're trying always to get a performance advantage. When you push things to the limit it's inevitable you stray into areas where unreliability can strike."

"Motor racing is not a sport for the faint-hearted. If you can't take the heat you shouldn't be in the sport. These things happen. We're not wimps. Neither of our drivers is and we're going to fight all the way and put the pressure on them."

Schumacher is a highly talented and motivated driver, but he's made mistakes this season and there's no reason why he won't make more mistakes. One spin from Michael or Mika in the next two Grands Prix can determine the World Championship.

"We're not walking away from Monza as losers, we're walking away from the Constructors' Championship and equal in the Drivers' Championship. Let's deal with David," Haug said. "He came to me and apologised but I told him we're the ones who should apologise. Now the showdown is on and I can understand why Ferrari say we will crack, but the pressure will not break us. It is clear the problem we have had was technical, and no fault of the drivers. They made no mistakes, we did."

Damon Hill knows what it is like to be on the receiving end of Schumacher's pressure. He succumbed to it in 1994 and 1995, and is a captivated observer as his old adversary, aided by the former Benetton technical director, Ross Brawn, threatened to pull off a third title.

"The situation is unbelievable," said the Jordan driver, sixth on Sunday. "We all wrote off the Champion-

Emotions run high as Ferrari turn up heat

BY DERICK ALLSOP
in Monza

TWO RACES to go, everything to play for, and the contesting camps have taken over from their drivers as the struggle for the World Championship becomes a test of nerve as well as skill and reliability.

This nation is gripped by euphoria following Ferrari's one-two success in the Italian Grand Prix and Michael Schumacher's elevation to level points and wins with McLaren Mercedes' Mika Häkkinen. The Finn retains the lead only because he has two second places to Schumacher's one.

They resume racing combat at the Nürburgring on Sunday week, but the off-circuit jousting is unrelenting and Jean Todt, Ferrari's sporting director, took the opportunity to apply a little more psychological pressure rather than wallow in the celebration and adulation.

"We've noticed every time we put McLaren under pressure it's gone well for us," Todt said. "McLaren were a bit quicker than us here and I think they still are, but they did not take advantage or use the potential of the car. Everything is open in the Championship now. Emotions here mean nothing. We have to live with reality and the reality is that Michael has six wins. I don't know when that was last done in a season by a Ferrari driver."

The answer is 1992, the driver Alberto Ascari. Schumacher; no, won-

dered aloud whether Häkkinen would survive the heat. "We make things difficult for him and keep him under pressure," the German said.

"I'm not saying he is going to crack, but it was easier for him in the early part of the season. Now mistakes are more likely. He's been a good racing driver this season but we will see how he copes in the two races left."

Häkkinen, who has lost a 16 point advantage in the last three Grands Prix, admitted he was "nervous" and anxiety showed on the faces of his colleagues.

However, Ron Dennis, the McLaren team principal, made a defiant retort and an effort to restore confidence after their wretched race. David Coulthard's engine blew when he held a com-

fortable lead and Häkkinen, hampered by a brake problem, was unable to salvage fourth place.

Dennis said: "If you can't take the heat you shouldn't be in the sport. These things happen. We're not wimps. Neither of our drivers is and we're going to fight all the way and put the pressure on them."

Schumacher is a highly talented and motivated driver, but he's made mistakes this season and there's no reason why he won't make more mistakes. One spin from Michael or Mika in the next two Grands Prix can determine the World Championship.

"We're not walking away from Monza as losers, we're walking away from the Constructors' Championship and equal in the Drivers' Championship. Let's deal with David," Haug said. "He came to me and apologised but I told him we're the ones who should apologise. Now the showdown is on and I can understand why Ferrari say we will crack, but the pressure will not break us. It is clear the problem we have had was technical, and no fault of the drivers. They made no mistakes, we did."

Damon Hill knows what it is like to be on the receiving end of Schumacher's pressure. He succumbed to it in 1994 and 1995, and is a captivated observer as his old adversary,

aided by the former Benetton technical director, Ross Brawn, threatened to pull off a third title.

"The situation is unbelievable," said the Jordan driver, sixth on Sunday. "We all wrote off the Champion-

ship for anyone other than McLaren at the start of the season when they were having one-twos. "Whatever has gone wrong I don't know, but you just can't give someone like Ross Brawn and Michael Schumacher the slightest whiff of anything, or else."

"I find it difficult to predict the outcome of the Championship but, although McLaren might have the advantage in machinery, you would have to say Ferrari have now got the edge in morale and that can go a long way."

The Championship can be decided at the Luxembourg Grand Prix only if Häkkinen wins and Schumacher fails to score. The more likely scenario is a last race decider in Japan, on 1 November.

Rafter's win affirms truly open era

WHILE MANY people pine for the larger-than-life personalities (Nastase, Connors, McEnroe) and clear-cut rivalries (Evans and Navratilova), tennis cannot be accused of lacking a variety of major winners.

Eight different players – four men and four women – have won the singles titles at this year's Grand Slams, the championships of Australia, France, Wimbledon and the United States. It is only the second time that has happened in the 30 years of the open era.

Pat Rafter and Lindsay Davenport tied the bow on the package by winning the singles titles at the United States Open at the weekend. Rafter, in successfully defending the US championship in the open era.

"Last year was not such a fluke, then," Rafter said. "It would be great to have a little dig at him. But John's only been very positive to me in the locker-room, so I've got no bad feelings to say to John at all."

Although Rafter and Philippoussis seem to have repaired their Davis Cup rift at a personal level, the 21-year-old Philippoussis reiterated that playing for the team was not in his thoughts at the moment. He criticised John Newcombe, Australia's captain, and Tony Roche, the coach, for sitting in Rafter's guest box on Sunday night. "I was extremely disappointed," Philippoussis said. "They should have been neutral."

Rafter said: "Newcombe and Roche's job is to work for the Davis Cup. Mark has not made himself available for Davis Cup selection at all. I didn't see New in my corner, anyway. Roche's been there with me this whole couple of weeks. He's been there with the Davis Cup team for three or four years. They are here for Davis Cup. If Mark wants to play Davis Cup, they're happy to be in my corner."

Philippoussis was in Philippoussis's corner, along with Gav Hopper, his trainer-coach. Philippoussis hopes Cash will become a full-time member of his team. "It's great having him by my side," Philippoussis said. "That's something we'll sit down and talk about. It's hard for him. There's a family involved."

Philippoussis, aged 10 when Cash won Wimbledon in 1987, is able to identify the gutsy serve-volleyer from Melbourne as a hero figure. Great play-

ers that Newcombe and Roche were, Philippoussis knows them only by reputation.

Cash might be just the man to help put the awesome components of Philippoussis's game into running order. "I definitely need mental discipline and patience," Philippoussis said. "You know, not to go for the most unbelievable shot, the play of the day, instead of just getting the ball in, making my opponent play the shot."

Rafter, who came close to losing to Hicham Azaiez of Morocco, in the first round, made only five unforced errors against Philippoussis in the final. He said he found last year's final, against Britain's Greg Rusedski, more nerve-racking. "I didn't do that much wrong, except for a few double-faults," Philippoussis said. "Pat hit a lot of passing shots, and he made me volley a lot from my shoelaces. He was playing great tennis."

"It was like Stefan Edberg when I was playing him at the net. He was always coming in. You were expecting the pressure, expecting him to make some great volleys. You just try and make him miss a little. Only five unforced errors – you can't do anything."

Rafter and Philippoussis provided the first all-Australian men's singles final at the US Open since 1970, when Ken Rosewall defeated Tony Roche on grass at Forest Hills.

Wimbledon is now the only Grand Slam played on grass. When the Australian Open moved from the Melbourne suburb of Kooyong to the city centre in 1988, the surface switched from grass to rubberised concrete.

Concern was expressed that the move to hard courts would gradually erode Australia's traditional attacking game. Rafter has now served-volleyed to consecutive titles on the similar concrete courts at Flushing Meadow, and Philippoussis was not exactly inhibited. Neither player, however, feels as comfortable on Wimbledon's lawns.

Encouragingly for the men, eight different finalists featured in the men's singles at the Grand Slams – Pet Korda and Marcelo Rios, Carlos Moya and Alex Corretja, Pete Sampras and Goran Ivanisevic, Rafter and Philippoussis.

Rafter, 25, in the long tradition of the great blokes of Australian tennis, has achieved stardom on the court to complement a winning personality.

John McEnroe, not the type to nibble at his words, never

GOING: Good. Soft.

STALLS: Straight course – stand side; round course – inside. DRAW ADVANTAGE: High for ST to 1m.

■ LEFT-hand corner, level 1m. TURN: 1m. ADMISION: Club £2. TAILORING: Fitter 25-30cm. Fitter 25-30cm. C British 23-25 (15%). H Collar 15-22 (18%). L Cuff 14-16 (21%).

■ LEADING TRAINERS: H: Codd 26-30 (25%). C British 23-25 (15%). D: L Doherty 36-38 (28%). R Hines 34-37 (24%).

■ LEADERS: C: Codd 6-8 (5%). H: Doherty 6-8 (5%).

■ FAVOURITES: 227-628 (26%). BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Neteller's Pat (45). Madmen (veered, 31%).

YARMOUTH

HYPERION

2.05 MYSTERIOUS ECOLOGY 2.35 LA NUIT ROSE 3.10 CARRERA FIRESTOE 3.40 SYLVIA PARADISE 4.15 MISS MONEY SPIDER 4.45 CREME PARADISE

GOING: Good. Soft.

STALLS: Straight course – stand side; round course – inside.

DRAW ADVANTAGE: High for ST to 1m.

■ LEFT-hand corner, level 1m. TURN: 1m. ADMISION: Club £2. TAILORING: Fitter 25-30cm. Fitter 25-30cm. C British 23-25 (15%). H Collar 15-22 (18%). L Cuff 14-16 (21%).

■ LEADING TRAINERS: H: Codd 26-30 (25%). C British 23-25 (15%). D: L Doherty 36-38 (28%). R Hines 34-37 (24%).

■ LEADERS: C: Codd 6-8 (5%). H: Doherty 6-8 (5%).

■ FAVOURITES: 227-628 (26%). BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Neteller's Pat (45). Madmen (veered, 31%).

■ FORM VERDICT

Despite meeting the likes of Coombes and daughter, Mysterious Ecology and No Man on worse terms than he would in a handicap, CROMER PIER seems the vote in an ordinary claim on the strength of his proven ability on soft ground (more rain in forecast).

■ FORM VERDICT

Despite meeting the likes of Coombes and daughter, Mysterious Ecology and No Man on worse terms than he would in a handicap, CROMER PIER seems the vote in an ordinary claim on the strength of his proven ability on soft ground (more rain in forecast).

■ FORM VERDICT

Despite meeting the likes of Coombes and daughter, Mysterious Ecology and No Man on worse terms than he would in a handicap, CROMER PIER seems the vote in an ordinary claim on the strength of his proven ability on soft ground (more rain in forecast).

■ FORM VERDICT

Despite meeting the likes of Coombes and daughter, Mysterious Ecology and No Man on worse terms than he would in a handicap, CROMER PIER seems the vote in an ordinary claim on the strength of his proven ability on soft ground (more rain in forecast).

■ FORM VERDICT

Despite meeting the likes of Coombes and daughter, Mysterious Ecology and No Man on worse terms than he would in a handicap, CROMER PIER seems the vote in an ordinary claim on the strength of his proven ability on soft ground (more rain in forecast).

■ FORM VERDICT

Despite meeting the likes of Coombes and daughter, Mysterious Ecology and No Man on worse terms than he would in a handicap, CROMER PIER seems the vote in an ordinary claim on the strength of his proven ability on soft ground (more rain in forecast).

■ FORM VERDICT

Despite meeting the likes of Coombes and daughter, Mysterious Ecology and No Man on worse terms than he would in a handicap, CROMER PIER seems the vote in an ordinary claim on the strength of his proven ability on soft ground (more rain in forecast).

■ FORM VERDICT

Despite meeting the likes of Coombes and daughter, Mysterious Ecology and No Man on worse terms than he would in a handicap, CROMER PIER seems the vote in an ordinary claim on the strength of his proven ability on soft ground (more rain in forecast).

■ FORM VERDICT

Despite meeting the likes of Coombes and daughter, Mysterious Ecology and No Man on worse terms than he would in a handicap, CROMER PIER seems the vote in an ordinary claim on the strength of his proven ability on soft ground (more rain in forecast).

■ FORM VERDICT

Despite meeting the likes of Coombes and daughter, Mysterious Ecology and No Man on worse terms than he would in a handicap, CROMER PIER seems the vote in an ordinary claim on the strength of his proven ability on soft ground (more rain in forecast).

■ FORM VERDICT

Despite meeting the likes of Coombes and daughter, Mysterious Ecology and No Man on worse terms than he would in a handicap, CROMER PIER seems the vote in an ordinary claim on the strength of his proven ability on soft ground (more rain in forecast).

■ FORM VERDICT

Despite meeting the likes of Coombes and daughter, Mysterious Ecology and No Man on worse terms than he would in a handicap, CROMER PIER seems the vote in an ordinary claim on the strength of his proven ability on soft ground (more rain in forecast).

■ FORM VERDICT

Despite meeting the likes of Coombes and daughter, Mysterious Ecology and No Man on worse terms than he would in a handicap, CROMER PIER seems the vote in an ordinary claim on the strength of his proven ability on soft ground (more rain in forecast).

■ FORM VERDICT

Despite meeting the likes of Coombes and daughter, Mysterious Ecology and No Man on worse terms than he would in a handicap, CROMER PIER seems the vote in an ordinary claim on the strength of his proven ability on soft ground (more rain in forecast).

■ FORM VERDICT

Despite meeting the likes of Coombes and daughter, Mysterious Ecology and No Man on worse terms than he would in a handicap, CROMER PIER seems the vote in an ordinary claim on the strength of his proven ability on soft ground (more rain in forecast).

■ FORM VERDICT

Despite meeting the likes of Coombes and daughter, Mysterious Ecology and No Man on worse terms than he would in a handicap, CROMER PIER seems the vote in an ordinary claim on the strength of his proven ability on soft ground (more rain in forecast).

■ FORM VERDICT

Despite meeting the likes of Coombes and daughter, Mysterious Ecology and No Man on worse terms than he would in a handicap, CROMER PIER seems the vote in an ordinary claim on the strength of his proven ability on soft ground (more rain in forecast).

■ FORM VERDICT

Despite meeting the likes of Coombes and daughter, Mysterious Ecology and No Man on worse terms than he would in a handicap, CROMER PIER seems the vote in an ordinary claim on the strength of his proven ability on soft ground (more rain in forecast).

■ FORM VERDICT

Despite meeting the likes of Coombes and daughter, Mysterious Ecology and No Man on worse terms than he would in a handicap, CROMER PIER seems the vote in an ordinary claim on the strength of his proven ability on soft ground (more rain in forecast).

■ FORM VERDICT

Despite meeting the likes of Coombes and daughter, Mysterious Ecology and No Man on worse terms than he would in a handicap, CROMER PIER seems the vote in an ordinary claim on the strength of his proven ability on soft ground (more rain in forecast).

■ FORM VERDICT

Despite meeting the likes of Coombes and daughter, Mysterious Ecology and No Man on worse terms than he would in a handicap, CROMER PIER seems the vote in an ordinary claim on the strength of his proven ability on soft ground (more rain in forecast).

■ FORM VERDICT

Despite meeting the likes of Coombes and daughter, Mysterious Ecology and No Man on worse terms than he would in a handicap, CROMER PIER seems the vote in an ordinary claim on the strength of his proven ability on soft ground (more rain in forecast).

■ FORM VERDICT

Despite meeting the likes of Coombes and daughter, Mysterious Ecology and No Man on worse terms than he would in a handicap, CROMER PIER seems the vote in an ordinary claim on the strength of his proven ability on soft ground (more rain in forecast).

■ FORM VERDICT

Despite meeting the likes of Coombes and daughter, Mysterious Ecology and No Man on worse terms than he would in a handicap, CROMER PIER seems the vote in an ordinary claim on the strength of his proven ability on soft ground (more rain in forecast).

■ FORM VERDICT

Despite meeting the likes of Coombes and daughter, Mysterious Ecology and No Man on worse terms than he would in a handicap, CROMER PIER seems the vote in an ordinary claim on the strength of his proven ability on soft ground (more rain in forecast).

■ FORM VERDICT

Despite meeting the likes of Coombes and daughter, Mysterious Ecology and No Man on worse terms than he would in a handicap, CROMER PIER seems the vote in an ordinary claim on the strength of his proven ability on soft ground (more rain in forecast).

■ FORM VERDICT

Despite meeting the likes of Coombes and daughter, Mysterious Ecology and No Man on worse terms than he would in a handicap, CROMER PIER seems the vote in an ordinary claim on the strength of his proven ability on soft ground (more rain in forecast).

■ FORM VERDICT

Despite meeting the likes of Coombes and daughter, Mysterious Ecology and No Man on worse terms than he would in a handicap, CROMER PIER seems the vote in an ordinary claim on the strength of his proven ability on soft ground (more rain in forecast).

■ FORM VERDICT

Despite meeting the likes of Coombes and daughter, Mysterious Ecology and No Man on worse terms than he would in a handicap, CROMER PIER seems the vote in an ordinary claim on the strength of his proven ability on soft ground (more rain in forecast).

■ FORM VERDICT

Despite meeting the likes of Coombes and daughter, Mysterious Ecology and No Man on worse terms than he would in a handicap, CROMER PIER seems the vote in an ordinary claim on the strength of his proven ability on soft ground (more rain in forecast).

■ FORM VERDICT

Despite meeting the likes of Coombes and daughter, Mysterious Ecology and No Man on worse terms than he would in a handicap, CROMER PIER seems the vote in an ordinary claim on the strength of his proven ability on soft ground (more rain in forecast).

■ FORM VERDICT

Despite meeting the likes of Coombes and daughter, Mysterious Ecology and No Man on worse terms than he would in a handicap, CROMER PIER seems the vote in an ordinary claim on the strength of his proven ability on soft ground (more rain in forecast).

■ FORM VERDICT

Despite meeting the likes of Coombes and daughter, Mysterious Ecology and No Man on worse terms than he would in a handicap, CROMER PIER seems the vote in an ordinary claim on the strength of his proven ability on soft ground (more rain in forecast).

■ FORM VERDICT

Despite meeting the likes of Coombes and daughter, Mysterious Ecology and No Man on worse terms than he would in a handicap, CROMER PIER seems the vote in an ordinary claim on the strength of his proven ability on soft ground (more rain in forecast).

■ FORM VERDICT

Despite meeting the likes of Coombes and daughter, Mysterious Ecology and No Man on worse terms than he would in a handicap, CROMER PIER seems the vote in an ordinary claim on the strength of his proven ability on soft ground (more rain in forecast).

■ FORM VERDICT

Despite meeting the likes of Coombes and daughter, Mysterious Ecology and No Man on worse terms than he would in a handicap, CROMER PIER seems the vote in an ordinary claim on the strength of his proven ability on soft ground (more rain in forecast).

■ FORM VERDICT

Despite meeting the likes of Coombes and daughter, Mysterious Ecology and No Man on worse terms than he would in a handicap, CROMER PIER seems the vote in an ordinary claim on the strength of his proven ability on soft ground (more rain in forecast).

■ FORM VERDICT

Despite meeting the likes of Coombes and daughter, Mysterious Ecology and No Man on worse terms than he would in a handicap, CROMER PIER seems the vote in an ordinary claim on the strength of his proven ability on soft ground (more rain in forecast).</

Champions' League: Wenger's established, big-city Arsenal take on the small-town, ambitious newcomers of Lens

The odd couple's meeting of minds



Lens' concrete-and-glass pastiche of Highbury where their president, Gervais Martel (below left), sits in the dug-out while their unconventional-looking coach, Daniel Leclercq (centre), prowls the touchline. David Ashdown

TOMORROW NIGHT, the most French of British clubs will play the most British of French clubs in the Champions' League.

The meeting between Arsenal and Racing Club de Lens – the first game in the Champions' League for both clubs – is a whirlpool of cross-channel cultural influences. Arsenal have a French manager and five French players; Lens have a stadium which is a concrete-and-glass pastiche of Highbury. Arsenal fans who make the journey might feel more at home away in the Pas de Calais than they do when playing home European games away at Wembley.

The Lens supporters, the most noisy and emotional in France, incorporate the British flag in their red and yellow banners. No one can remember quite why but it seems to be an attempt to claim kinship with the Anglo-Saxon game, both in passion and style.

On the surface there are few other similarities between Arsenal and Racing Club de Lens. The

BY JOHN LICHFIELD

The shop – *Univers des Song et Or* – opened five weeks ago and has already had to increase its staff from four to 19.

Although weakened by injuries and close-season depredations, Racing Club will be no pushover tomorrow night. They have two of the best French players NOT to be included in the World Cup-winning squad: Tony Vairelles, a fast, tricky left-sided striker, and Frédéric Déhu, a sweeper or defensive midfielder in the style of Emmanuel Petit. Both have been picked for France squads since the World Cup.

Racing also have a pacy, experienced and wily goal-scorer in the Czech international Vladimir Smicer, who is now paired up front with the powerful Pascal Nouma, a close-season signing from Strasbourg. But Vairelles is the great local hero. Although nominally a left-winger, he often drifts into the penalty area to score powerful or opportunistic goals. One whole section of the stadium at the Stade Félix Bo-

laert has been colonised by his fan club, who call themselves the "Tony Boys".

Lens, like Arsenal, have had an indifferent start to the season. They lie in eighth place after losing two

league games in their first five (including by 2-0 at Monaco last Thursday when Nouma was sent off after only 22 minutes). They are sorely missing their long-serving captain, and central defender, Jean-Guy Wallemme, transferred to Coventry City, and their attacking midfielder, Marc-Vivien Foé, still not recovered from the leg injury which blocked his transfer to Manchester United.

Lens play an attractive 4-3-3 –

often more like 4-2-3, with Déhu as

a kind of advanced sweeper. Their

unconventional-looking manager,

Daniel Leclercq, combines a Keegan-like commitment to attack with

a taciturn, almost depressive, man-

ner which makes Kenny Dalglish

look jovial.

It is difficult to image a starker contrast between the two French managers in contention tomorrow night: the urbane, academic Arsène Wenger and the dishevelled, Leclercq, with his rumpled anorak, care-lined face and unruly wisps of blonde hair.

A local man and an inspirational Lens player in his youth, Leclercq fell out of the game altogether, becoming a village football and tennis coach, before returning as youth trainer and then – with spectacular

success – first-team coach last year. He and the president make an odd couple during matches. The expensively-dressed Martel insists on sitting in the dug-out, with a permanent scowl on his face; Leclercq, resembling a down-and-out, amiably prowls the touch-line.

Appearances are misleading. Leclercq is an inspirational leader and a considerable tactician. He is a passionate football man but he constantly betrays a sadness with the importance placed on football these days.

"It will be tough for us this year because everyone will be playing against the champions of the country which won the championship of the world," Leclercq said. "We are not Paris or Marseilles or Monaco. We don't brag. I've been going around calming people down. We don't want to make a mountain out of all this. The important thing is the game and the pleasure that comes from the game."

Martel's long-term game plan also requires a victory.



Harmony eludes Rovers

TO DESCRIBE the last time Blackburn Rovers got into Europe as unfortunate would be to downplay the experience. Tetchy to the point where Graeme Le Saux and David Batty were trading blows and Colin Hendry was sent off in icy Moscow, the finished bottom of their Champions' League group and did little for the image of English football.

It would be nice to report a more harmonious atmosphere as they approach tonight's Uefa Cup first round first leg game against Lyons. But, sadly, problems seem to be mounting at Ewood Park. Blackburn are in the Premiership's relegation places and cracks in their compo-sure are appearing over Tottenham Hotspur's prolonged pursuit of their captain, Tim Sherwood.

Yesterday Sherwood's representative, Eric Hall, said on television an increased offer, £25m, would be forthcoming from White Hart Lane, which provoked an indignant response from Blackburn's manager Roy Hodgson. "It's not a matter of bids being refused," he said. "He's not for sale and I find it disturbing and unsporting that an agent is forcing me

BY GUY HODGSON

to talk about the subject on the eve of an important European tie.

"Our position remains the same, we are not interested in an approach. I've had a 30-second conversation with David Pleat in which he told me Tottenham would go to a certain price or else forget it. I replied 'Great, because we are not interested in any offer you make.'

Sherwood, who signed a contract in January that would keep him at Blackburn until 2002, has said he does not want to move but was disgruntled yesterday that the matter was being aired. "This is an internal dispute," he said. "And, no, it's not been sorted out."

If Blackburn were playing well, the issue could be dismissed as a beneficial outlet of creative tension but the team have under-performed miserably since the turn of the year, winning just six League matches and losing 13. On Saturday they were abject, losing 3-0 to Sheffield Wednesday while creating only one chance – and that was gifted to them. "By our standards we were awful,"

Chris Sutton admitted yesterday. Lyons, by comparison, are on the crest of a wave in second place in the French League. Last season in this competition, they defeated Internazionale 2-1 in Milan before losing narrowly in the second round. Their principal striker, Alain Caviegas, has scored more goals than anyone else still playing in France, while Marco Grassi played under Hodson for Switzerland.

To further underline the size of Blackburn's task, Kevin Gallacher, who has scored both their goals this season, has a calf injury and might not play while Damien Duff is definitely out with a thigh strain and Martin Dahlin has a stomach bug.

More importantly, Blackburn will be going into the tie relatively short of knowledge. Matches at Tottenham on Wednesday and Hillsborough at the weekend prevented Hodson, whose last European match was the Uefa Cup final with Inter in 1997, travelling to France. "This is the first time I have been in a European tie without seeing the opposition," he said. "And that disturbs me. But I know we are playing a top-class side."

LIVERPOOL WERE dealt a blow on the eve of their European campaign with their captain, Paul Ince, ruled out of tonight's Uefa Cup first round first leg game at the Slovakian champions, Kosice.

The Merseysiders flew out from Liverpool airport without their influential midfielder, who has been sent to specialists for a precautionary scan on a knee ligament injury.

However, the Liverpool co-manager Roy Evans has virtually admitted that Robbie Fowler will be involved. The striker's long fitness fight has been cloaked in secrecy but Fowler travelled with the squad and Evans said: "He's in the squad of 20 and I can name seven substitutes. He's got a good chance of being in that group."

But for Ince the news was not so good. He has been carrying an injury for some time but damaged it further in the 2-1 defeat at his old club, West Ham, on Saturday. It is the last thing that managerial duo of Evans and Gérard Houllier wanted after Liverpool lost their unbeaten record this season at Upton Park. Steve Harkness is standing by

BY PAUL WALKER

Ince's England squad colleague Steve McManaman is likely to make the match against Kosice when Liverpool embark on their European adventure tonight, despite having been troubled by an Achilles injury for several weeks.

Liverpool expect to have Fowler on the bench for his first senior game since damaging cruciate knee ligaments in February. He has nine goals in four warm-up games, including a double hat-trick against a Wrexham XI last week.

Meanwhile, the Liverpool striker Sean Dundee has turned his back on the chance to join the French team, Auxerre. Dundee has yet to play for Liverpool's first team after a £2m move to Anfield from Germany's Karlsruhe in the summer.

Leeds United, who entertain the Portuguese side Marítimo, also in the Uefa Cup, tonight, will step up their interest in taking David Batty back to Elland Road if Newcastle United decide to sell their England mid-fielder.

The Leeds chairman, Peter Rids-

dale, said yesterday: "Batty is a player our manager George Graham admires. If George came to us and said he wanted him we would do our best to get him."

Batty's return to Leeds would prove popular with the club's fans who protested strongly when he was sold to Blackburn Rovers in October 1993 for £2.75m.

Another player on the way to Elland Road is the Portuguese goalkeeper Nuno Santos. Santos plays for Vitória Setúbal and was in the national Under-21 side a couple of years ago. However, his contract is up and he wants to come to England.

Graham needs Nuno Santos to compete with Nigel Martyn because Mark Beevers is out for several months with an Achilles tendon injury. The player is expected to complete the deal today.

Graham, who led Arsenal to Cup-Winners' Cup success in 1994, is confident his players will respond positively to European football. "Like putting my wits against the European coaches and facing teams who are better than you. It gives me a buzz," he admitted.

RANGERS' BIG-MONEY buys were given a warning yesterday that they will have to earn the right to a place in the side, as the coach Dick Advocaat asserted that reputations for nothing.

Colin Hendry, Arthur Numan and Gabriel Amato are all excluded for tonight's Uefa Cup first round first leg game at Beitar Jerusalem. The German midfielder Jörg Albertz is unlikely to start due to poor form – and that could mean a chance for the likes of Craig Moore, Tony Vidmar, Ian Ferguson and Charlie Miller.

"I am not interested in someone's reputation. That doesn't count for me. What counts is watching a player, seeing what he is doing. That's what matters," Advocaat said. The Dutch coach, who spent £27m in the summer transfer market, claims the Israeli champions are a better side beaten by his team in the qualifying round. "Beitar" are a good team," he added. "It will be difficult but our plan must be to try and score a goal here."

Beitar's influential Hungarian midfielder Stefan Saloi is unlikely to play after a row with coach Drot Kastan. Saloi has been suspended from training after making it clear he would prefer a more forward role.

A positive result for Celtic tonight at Portugal's Vitoria Guimaraes in the same tournament will ease the pressure on Jozef Venglos, the club's coach, after a bad start to the season. He will have to manage without the Norwegian striker Harald Brattbakk, who was struck down by flu on Sunday. That should see a recall for Darren Jackson, with Tom Boyd, Henrik Larsson and Craig Burley all expected to shake off minor knocks to play.

Vitoria are also missing key personnel with the Brazilian Marcio Theodore – one of half a dozen in their ranks – absent from a defence that conceded less goals than any other team in Portugal last year and doubts over Riva and Paulo Fonseca. But, with two more Brazilians, Gilmar and Edmilson, in attack and the veteran former Portuguese international playmaker Vitor Paneria directing operations from midfield, they will still present a formidable threat to a Celtic side that still has to find its form.

Knee injury rules out Ince

BY PAUL WALKER

Ince's England squad colleague Steve McManaman is likely to make the match against Kosice when Liverpool embark on their European adventure tonight, despite having been troubled by an Achilles injury for several weeks.

Liverpool expect to have Fowler on the bench for his first senior game since damaging cruciate knee ligaments in February. He has nine goals in four warm-up games, including a double hat-trick against a Wrexham XI last week.

Meanwhile, the Liverpool striker Sean Dundee has turned his back on the chance to join the French team, Auxerre. Dundee has yet to play for Liverpool's first team after a £2m move to Anfield from Germany's Karlsruhe in the summer.

Leeds United, who entertain the Portuguese side Marítimo, also in the Uefa Cup, tonight, will step up their interest in taking David Batty back to Elland Road if Newcastle United decide to sell their England mid-fielder.

The Leeds chairman, Peter Rids-

Camacho lays down his terms for Spain job

SPAIN

SPAIN'S HARD-PRESSED football federation has turned to Jose Antonio Camacho in its increasingly desperate effort to appoint a successor to Javier Clemente.

Camacho is the second man to be offered the post of national coach since the departure of Clemente, who left the job last week after a shocking 3-2 defeat to Cyprus in a European Championship qualifier.

The former Real Madrid defender and Espanyol coach has accepted the offer – but only on the condition that he can work free of interference.

The federation said last week any offer would be non-negotiable. It must now decide whether to go back on its word and accede to Camacho's demands – details of which were not made public – or refuse to budge and face embarrassment.

Camacho, who spent 16 seasons with Real Madrid and was capped 81 times by his country, left Espanyol in the summer to take charge at

Real. He lasted only 22 days at the Bernabeu, though, walking out after a row over backroom staff.

The federation's first choice to succeed Clemente was Luis Aragones, the veteran coach who left Real Betis during the summer, saying he was retiring from football altogether. The most experienced coach in Spain – he took charge of 611 Primera Division games – said he was tempted by the offer but ultimately could not accept. It is believed that the imposition of Clemente's old coaching set-up was the stumbling block.

Marcelo Bielsa, the successor to Jose Antonio Camacho as the coach of the Spanish club Espanyol, has also Camacho at Real Madrid, quickly moved on.

Bielsa was appointed Argentina's national coach last week. He replaces Daniel Passarella, who quit after his team were knocked out of the World Cup quarter-finals.

ARGENTINA

LIKE THEIR South American rivals Argentina and Brazil, Colombia have appointed a new coach. Javier Alvarez, the coach of the provincial Colombian club Caldas, took over the national team last week.

Leite made his unprecedented offer last week following a run of eight matches without a win in the league. If he thought things could only get better, he was wrong.

The team lost again, two Flamengo players were sent off, the general manager, Washington Rodriguez, ran on to the pitch to remonstrate with the referee – and the coach, Toninho Barroso, resigned after less than three weeks in charge.

Flamengo said last week that supporters who kept their tickets would be given refunds if Flamengo faced having to hand out a small fortune to more than 50,000 fans yesterday, after Sunday's 3-2 defeat by Portugal.

The club president, Kleber Leite, admitted he now had a massive logistical problem, but this is matched by his problems on the pitch after another bizarre weekend for Brazil's most popular club.

"We have decided to risk a young

man, who has clear ideas about foot-

ball and has demonstrated that he

has character," Alvaro Fina, the

Colombian football federation presi-

dent, said. Alvarez has caused a stir

by leading unfashionable Caídas to

the top of the Colombian league.

Alvaro Fina, the Colombian football

federation president, has called for

more investment in the national team.

Alvaro Fina, the Colombian football

federation president, has called for

more investment in the national team.

Alvaro Fina, the Colombian football

federation president, has called for

more investment in the national team.

Alvaro Fina, the Colombian football

federation president, has called for

more investment in the national team.

Alvaro Fina, the Colombian football

federation president, has called for

more investment in the national team.

Alvaro Fina, the Colombian football

federation president, has called for

more investment in the national team.

Alvaro Fina, the Colombian football

federation president, has called for



SPORT

ROSE GOES BACK TO SCHOOL P24 • RESILIENT RAFTER P27

Gregory troubled by Villa's vacant front line

DESPITE HIS team's three-point lead in the Premiership, John Gregory admitted yesterday that Aston Villa were missing Dwight Yorke and pledged to carry on spending.

Gregory, preparing for a UEFA Cup first round, first leg match at home to the Norwegian of Stromsgodset tonight, acknowledged that Villa's scoring capacity did not match their defensive capabilities. While anticipating that Paul Merson would be influential in correcting the imbalance, he promised not to rest on his laurels.

"I intend to keep strengthening the squad," Gregory said. "The great Liverpool side who won so many championships would always replace a couple of players. Arsène Wenger has done the same at Arsenal this year."

The Villa manager, who still has a transfer kitty of around £20m, is keeping the names of his targets to himself. Weekend reports suggested

he had tried to prise Alan Shearer from Newcastle, only to be told by Ruud Gullit that the England captain is not for sale. Shearer could take his pick of English, Spanish and Italian clubs, but Villa's apparent interest is an indication of the quality the former Wycombe manager wants to attract.

Gregory confirmed Villa had been on the trail of Sweden's Fredrik Ljungberg, watching him as recently as last Thursday. "Our concern was whether he would get into the team. We pressed the pause button and he went to Arsenal."

After his injudicious comments in the wake of Yorke's departure to Manchester United - "If I'd had a gun, I'd have shot him" - Gregory was in conciliatory mood. "We're missing Yorke, I can't deny that. He gave us a hell of lot going forward."

The prospect of the Champions League was a key factor in Yorke's yearning for Old Trafford. "Playing for Trinidad & Tobago, he doesn't get the chance to perform before massive crowds at places like Juventus and Barcelona," Gregory said.

"There are some big teams in the

UEFA Cup but it isn't quite the same."

Villa are nonetheless anxious to enjoy another extended run after reaching the quarter-finals last spring. Being able to offer European football was a "selling point", according to Gregory in wooing Alan Thompson from Bolton and Merson from Middlesbrough.

The former Arsenal player signed too late to be eligible tonight. In his absence - and that of Yorke, Savo Milosevic (also sold) and Stan Collymore (injured) from last year's campaign - Villa may deploy Ric-

cardo Scimeca as a striker. The centre-back has not scored in 70 games, yet a lack of options means Gregory either goes with Scimeca or gambles on a raw reserve such as Darius Vassell.

Stromsgodset lie ninth in the Norwegian League after a 4-0 defeat by Stabæk which took their goals-against column to 53 in 22 matches. However, they possess Premiership experience in the former Chelsea defender Erlend Johnsen and the towering striker Jostein Flø, once of Sheffield United, and Gregory believes they will raise their game just as Villa would in Madrid or Turin.

Johnson criticises Kendall signings

THE EVERTON chairman, Peter Johnson, yesterday launched a vigorous attack on the club's former manager, Howard Kendall, as he responded to charges of "gross mis-management" levelled against him at yesterday's annual general meeting.

One shareholder claimed the board had spent £100m in 10 years turning the club "from champs to chumps" and had still not found a goalscorer.

Many of Kendall's buys are still at Everton with Don Hutchison, John Spencer, Gareth Farrelly, Carl Tiler and Michael Madar in the squad.

Kendall made cut-price signings while the fans bayed for Johnson to give them more funds to stop the slide towards relegation.

BY ALAN NIXON

gation, but Johnson claimed yesterday he did not trust him to spend money wisely.

"It would have been totally wrong of me to release the purse strings last year and you know that," Johnson said. "Did you want Howard to spend all of that money on the type of players he brought in last season? I think you would have been appalled."

Meanwhile yesterday, supporters' groups urged the Premier League to reject UEFA plans to grant wild card entries to the Champions' League. European football's governing body, whose taskforce met in Geneva yesterday, has suggested granting automatic

entry to past winners. However, a Campaign Against The Super League spokeswoman said: "We've fought against a breakaway league, but a wild-card system has the same drawbacks."

"Fans can't stomach the thought of some clubs getting special privileges. A wild card would give clubs like AC Milan guaranteed entry for several years even if they were relegated in Italy."

Two Juventus midfielders, the Frenchmen Zinedine Zidane and Didier Deschamps, were yesterday called in for questioning by a prosecutor looking into alleged use of banned substances in Italy's Serie A. Neither player would be specific about what they

Arcs of triumph in the pool



Ferguson refuses to talk about Juve job

ALEX FERGUSON, the Manchester United manager, is refusing to be drawn on speculation that he has been targeted to manage the Italian giants Juventus.

A go-between acting on behalf of the Turin club has reportedly approached Ferguson to ask if he would be keen to succeed Marcello Lippi when he retires next summer.

However, Ferguson said: "I don't want to be drawn into things like that. We've got a big game against Barcelona on Wednesday and I don't want to detract from it."

The United chairman, Martin Edwards, said suggestions Ferguson would move to Italy are "a nonsense".

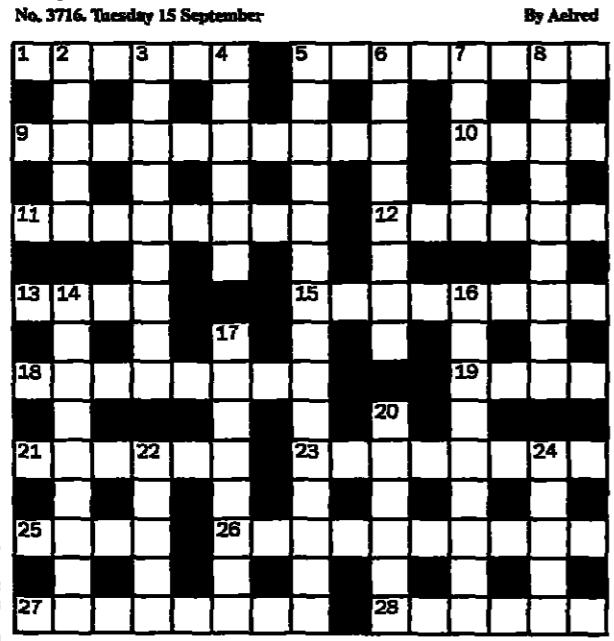
"We know Juventus very well and I know their vice-president, Roberto Bettega, well," Edwards said. "I'm absolutely certain that if there was anything in it I would have heard from Juventus."

Lens effect, page 28

©Published by Independent Newspapers (UK) Limited, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5AA. Printed at Mirror Colour Press, St Albans Road, Watford and Hollinswood Avenue, Oldham. Back issues available from Historic Newspapers, 01992 840370. Registered as a newspaper with the Post Office.

Reports, results, page 25. AFP

THE TUESDAY CROSSWORD



By Ashred

Monday's Solution

ACROSS	FEEDORA
1	ON H A I E
2	GOLDCREST
3	SIT UP
4	ROSE S C P I R
5	EUNS ESCALLOONIA
6	A E A I B U C
7	SOLVABLE
8	Y E R B S
9	ALERT
10	SCORING DOMESTIC
11	P V Y X S I H A
12	OPENHAMPTON FIELD
13	O R R O M H G C
14	NOTED ITINERARY
15	A E L T R P
16	EXTRAS ELEVEN

- ACROSS**
- Where you'll find students make temporary home going to America (6)
 - Con men I'm confusing with memory trick (8)
 - Woman with line wanted applied varnish (10)
 - Spot agent following enemy initially (4)
 - Artist and doctor on the French walk (6)
 - Slightly burn the tea (4)
 - Boy unknown on boat of posh female (8)
 - Symbol of oppression used to be in a piece of equipment's back (8)
 - Very big game to be played (4)
- DOWN**
- A bit of power given to the man's a pest (5)
 - Fish and chips to be cooked with lard (6)
 - Blemishes of army seen in instances of wickedness (6)
 - Lance Baker could do this to get right away (4,1,3,5)
 - Order carrier in which to put paperbacks? (8)
 - Past deliveries to the Oval? (4)
 - Instrument used for surveying - shocking he looted it (10)
 - Sailors kiss in exalted part of Jersey (4,4)
 - US state or flag (6)
 - Rodeo lad could be found in place of fabulous wealth (2,6)
 - Poem presented with beatification in Roman theatre (5)
 - Forcing one member onto the Spanish heather (9)
 - Hoovers we used in any way possible (9)
 - Mark equivalent to half Costa Rican currency? (9)
 - Unusual wetting applied to European character sketch (6)
 - Dolphins caused traffic congestion (4,2)
 - Endlessly wily little creature (5)
 - Fight in Somerset town (3-2)

©Published by Independent Newspapers (UK) Limited, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5AA. Printed at Mirror Colour Press, St Albans Road, Watford and Hollinswood Avenue, Oldham. Back issues available from Historic Newspapers, 01992 840370. Registered as a newspaper with the Post Office.

WE'D RATHER BUY THE GAME THAN THE CLUB.

FC Kosice v Liverpool. UEFA Cup. Live tonight only on Channel 5 from 6.45pm.

5

San F
£3
for the

TUESDAY REVIEW

COMMENT • FEATURES • ARTS • LISTINGS • TELEVISION



Brett Edwards

Sayonara

The year Japan went west

Fly in over the vast Tokyo plain or look out from any of the city's tall buildings and you can see more economic activity being physically created than you could from any other point on the globe. You are not just looking at the homes, offices and factories of 30 million people - the largest collection of human beings in one place in the world. You are also looking at the largest single unit of the global economy, which produces between 3 and 4 per cent of the world's economic output. In all our homes there will almost certainly be something that has been made, designed or marketed in the Tokyo region: a camera, a TV set, a roll of film.

If however, you were to look across Tokyo last week, as I did, you would be looking at something else. You would be looking at the world's biggest recession. Japan's boom has gone horribly wrong.

In absolute terms, nowhere else is so much economic activity being lost so fast. We had the latest figures last Friday. In the April/June quarter the Japanese economy contracted at an annual rate of more than 3 per cent. It is now down three quarters in a row for the first time since the Second World War, and there is absolutely no recovery in sight. Other countries - Thailand, Indonesia, Russia - may be heading down even faster, but they are tiny by comparison. Japan's economy is second only to that of the US. What happens there matters to all of us.

Yet the astonishing thing to the visitor is that you catch very little hint of the recession in the streets of Tokyo. With the exception of the civil servants, almost everyone I spoke to is extremely gloomy, not just about the economy but, more generally, about Japan's place in the world. However, the physical fabric seems as gritty

as ever. The streets are crowded, the shops are full of people, everyone seems as busy as they did in the bubble years of the late Eighties. The surface looks the same; the real difference is inside - inside people's heads and inside the often-concealed balance sheets of the companies and banks.

The easiest way to understand this is to think of two British houses side by side. One is owned outright by someone in a secure job. The other is owned by someone who mortgaged to the limit at the peak of the boom and may now be made redundant. Assume house prices have fallen by half. The two houses look identical, but while the person in the first house may be disappointed by the loss of its value, the person in the second will be in despair. Much of Tokyo - businesses, banks and people - is in the position of owner number two. Debt crushes the spirit, but, until the lender forecloses, it is invisible.

So you see the physical fabric of the bubble years - particularly the glittering office blocks, the symbols of the success of Japanese corporations. What you don't see is the debt that paid for them. No one has a really accurate picture of the scale of indebtedness of many, maybe most, Japanese companies and banks for two reasons.

One is that the published accounts are basically full of lies: assets put in at their cost rather than what they are worth now. The other is that, because Japanese companies own large chunks of each other's shares, any fall in the price of those shares is liable to pull another company down.

In the absence of decent data, the rumour mills grind away. Among companies there are those that are sound and those that will probably need to be rescued or simply go bust.

If the company situation is worrying, the plight of the banks is worse. Among banks there are those that are rumoured to be going bust any day now. Indeed it is actu-

ally possible that the whole banking system is bust, in the sense that the loans that will never be repaid are larger than the entire capital and reserves of the system.

It is quite hard to imagine that a business with a giant headquarters, thousands of workers, lines of black limos running squads of executives hither and thither, can actually be worth nothing. Sadly, for many Japanese banks this is true. They have taken in lots of money from depositors and then they have lost it.

This malaise and, in particular, this conflict between appearance and reality are reflected in day-to-day life. So while the stores are full of people, they aren't buying anything much, just walking around because there is not much else to do. There are, of course, pockets of activity. There is a boom in employment agencies for temporary workers. Lots of people have been laid off and are trying to get back into the

catching up with other developed countries this worked wonderfully well. Any mistakes were quickly overcome by the rapid growth. When, by the Eighties, Japan had caught up, instead of trying to switch from growth to profitability, the country behaved like the classic *nouveau riche*, throwing money at ludicrous investments.

The twin ministries still glower at each other across an eight-lane boulevard - Trade and Industry in a white tower, Finance in a squat grey block. But their reputation, particularly that of the MoF, has been shattered. The bureaucrats, who form a thoughtful, cultured, hard-working elite, are seen to have failed.

Why, I asked the man at Miti, did they not see this catastrophe coming? The hub of his answer was that they thought they had got through the recession and that they had a great 25-year plan for the next generation of growth industries. Main

Japanese cultural distinction between what is said and what is really meant. The business people I met had absolutely no hesitation in saying how alarmed they were about the economy; how they detested the bureaucrats and politicians and how they felt that Japan was approaching a revolution akin to that which swept through Britain under Margaret Thatcher.

In fact three people suggested to me that the coming revolution would be comparable with the Meiji revolution 130 years ago or with the creation of the present democratic system after the Second World War.

Too dramatic? Impossible to judge. What accounts for this cataclysmic view of the country is the fact that most Japanese can only remember success, so what is happening is entirely new. I had dinner with Masatoshi Ito, the founder of the Ito-Yokado group, one of Japan's two largest retailers. He is a lively septuagenarian who built up the group more or less from scratch after the war.

"Surely," I asked, "there must be some bright spots, some places where demand is all right?" He shook his head. "Maybe when the bank rescues have been completed, but, at the moment, no."

If the bureaucrats attract much of the opprobrium for the collapse, the politicians catch the rest. "I've given up on politicians" and "I do not have a high regard for our politics" were two of the more measured comments from business leaders. They were principally referring to the Liberal Democrats, who have been in charge virtually non-stop since the mid-Fifties.

If there is a focus for hope it lies in the Democratic Party of Japan, which has now become the principal opposition party. The Democrats are led by Naoto Kan, a telegenic 51-year-old. Some people see him and, just as importantly, the people round him, as the great hope for Japan. He looks the part, has been dubbed "Japan's Tony Blair" and is of a completely different generation from the gerontocracy of the LDP.

I went to a party meeting at which the words for "reform" and "bold" kept sprouting, but I do not really think anyone at the stage knows how strong the zeal is to take the very tough decisions that will have to be taken - like, for starters, do you make bank depositors suffer as well as bank shareholders? If not, then the present "muddle through and hope that something turns up" strategy will continue.

Muddling through has strong attractions. If only, somehow, they could go on patching things up, concealing problems, hiding bad debts, hoping that exports will save them... It is very difficult for any country to accept that a formula that has worked very well before is no longer working. The obvious parallel is Britain in the 1970s. An elite had managed to win a war, construct the first comprehensive welfare state and maintain a leading position in scientific and technical advances. When the strains showed, its instinct was to patch. Only the humiliation of the IMF conditions in 1976 forced change.

The first question for Japan is: will the situation be so bad that patching becomes impossible? If there were a banking crash that led to three years of deep recession and a surge in social tensions, change might be forced on the country.

The second question is: what will be the mechanism for change? Can the system change itself from within? The last two great changes were forced on Japan from abroad by the US. However, not only is there no appetite for such action in America, but Japan would not accept such pressure even if there was. So Japan is on its own.

Whatever happens - and my instinct is that there will be a great change of some sort, but not for another four or five years - there is a lot to play for. Japan's recession has a long way to run.

INSIDE

Letters	2	Features	8-9	Media	14-15	Radio	19
Leaders and comment	3-5	Health	10-11	Listings	17-18	Satellite TV	19
Obituaries	6-7	Arts	12-13	Games	19	Today's TV	20

MEDIA

San Francisco
£329 rtn

World Offers.
Flight prices from:

Paris
£75 rtn

Munich
£107 rtn

For thousands of World Offers call us now on:
0345 222111 Book by 30th September '98.
or see your Travel Agent

Fares are return from London and subject to availability and travel periods vary. Includes pre-paid taxes correct at 19th August 1998. For details see ITV Telex p.380, your Travel Agent, British Airways Travel Shop or book and pay at our Web site: www.british-airways.com

WORLD OFFERS
BRITISH AIRWAYS
The world's favourite airline

Clinton vs puritans

Sir: The pundits of Puritan prudery had better realise that their hypocrisy isn't selling in the American heartland. Kenneth Starr promised proof of criminal activity, but the only charges he makes against President Clinton relate to a natural reluctance to publicly admit to an embarrassing sexual affair. Where are the felonies? Where's the graft? Where's the corruption?

They promised to reveal serious crimes in the Oval Office, but it all boils down to a consensual sexual matter having no real bearing on Clinton's management of the people's affairs. Clinton is doing a tremendous job of running the country and we are not going to allow a gang of moral masqueraders to overthrow the best President we've had in the last 35 years.

Starr has wasted four years and \$40m proving that a man will lie about an extramarital affair. We do not approve of infidelity, but we know the difference between a sexual indiscretion and activities that undermine the people's interests. The religious fanatics trying to stir up a witch hunt should heed the President's popularity ratings, because those numbers are going to sink the Republican Party in November.

STEVEN WEBSTER
San Rafael, California, USA

Sir: It is not the sex, but the principle that the Executive obstructed the Judiciary – deliberately misleading them and the American people under oath. The fact that the President may have avoided the precise legal definition of perjury is not directly relevant to the question of impeachment, which is more broadly contingent upon acts tending to undermine the Constitution.

The semantic smokescreen behind which the President hid depended upon who touched whose genitals – and so also upon Ms Lewinsky's denial of a sexual relationship. Thus the President's concealment relied upon testimony which he knew to be perjury even by his own interpretation.

The President is sworn to uphold and defend the Constitution, with its deliberately constructed checks and balances, including those between the Judiciary and the Executive. Yet he (at least) took advantage of an act he knew to be illegal to obstruct a judicial investigation into his own conduct.

The question is not, would you trust this man with your daughter, but rather, would you trust him with the Constitution?

GERARD M BLAIR
Fort Collins, Colorado, USA

Sir: Now it seems the only options left for president Clinton are the two great American institutions, to "get Jesus" in a very big and public way and/or commit himself to the care of a therapist. Either way we will get to witness very well-spun contrition, absolution and rehabilitation with an ever more impassioned crescendo of pleas for forgiveness.

"New-found religion" is the same ploy that those on Death Row often embrace, usually to no avail. As Governor of Arkansas and a presidential hopeful, Clinton very publicly signed death warrants, just for the votes. Now he wants forgiveness. May one suggest that he begin by asking forgiveness from all the families of those put to death in Arkansas.

ROBERT HERTNER
London NW10

Sir: The US Congress, in releasing the Starr report on to the Internet, are guilty of astonishing hypocrisy. How can those politicians complain about pornography being available on the Internet when they themselves have placed on the net a sexually explicit report. How can children be prevented from seeing it? A simple search against the name Clinton will enable any child to view its contents.



Apples and Pears 2: in the second in a series on the British apple and pear harvest, Kelly Mantle picks apples at Plumford farm near Faversham in Kent. Pickers are paid by the bin-load

Tom Pilston

It is difficult to avoid the conclusion that the only purpose of the Starr report, having found no evidence of financial impropriety on the President's part, was to cause him as much embarrassment as possible.

MARTIN EDWARDS
London SE24

Sir: I do not approve of Clinton's affair with Lewinsky, but I approve even less of both Starr and the global media machine.

Starr appears hell-bent on removing a president from office. The global media machine appears hell-bent on trawling the depths of depravity to provide the most salacious material for its readers.

I feel most sorry for Hillary and Chelsea Clinton. To have dirty linen is bad; to have it aired around the world for all to see must be almost unbearable. One can only admire Hillary for the way in which she is supporting her husband.

DR SALLY BASKER
Ash, Surrey

Sir: Kenneth Starr's undignified slavering over the details of Bill Clinton's sex life testifies to nothing so much as his narrow horizons. As his fellow American Woody Allen taught us, "Sex is dirty; at least it is if you're doing it right."

BARRY IFE
Woodbridge, Suffolk

Fairer voting

Sir: Mike Gapes MP ("Right of Reply", 10 September) argues that the Jenkins Commission on proportional representation should recognise the overriding importance of keeping the link between MP and constituency.

Why?

Surveys show that few of us can even name our local MP. Even fewer bother to attend their

meetings or surgeries. And the 1997 election surely dispelled the myth of the "personal vote" (more a product of Members' vanity than a reflection of psychological reality).

The fact is, constituency MPs are neither one thing nor the other. Ward councillors are better placed to handle truly local concerns than MPs who, all too often, are parachuted in from distant parts of the country, spend much of their time in London and have little real commitment to their constituencies (witness the pre-election "chicken run" as senior Tories dumped their adopted political "homes" with barely a second glance in their rear-view mirrors). Citizens' Advice Bureaux too, generally provide rather more practical assistance than MPs, despite their much vaunted "special access" to ministers or civil servants.

As for the bigger local issues, regional representatives (within larger, multi-member constituencies) would surely be better placed to fight their constituents' corner with Whitehall and big business.

And after all, when push comes

to shove, are Mr Gapes and his colleagues ever likely to defy the party whip – even when "their" constituents' interests are compromised? In your dreams.

The fact is people vote for parties, not individuals, and a fair electoral system must reflect that fact. Sadly, if Mike Gapes's column is anything to go by, there are still plenty of turkeys at Westminster who won't be voting for Christmas. Fortunately, the decision will be ours, not theirs.

ANDREW MITCHELL
London W4

Sir: A D Hadley (letter, 7 September) doubts whether Lord Jenkins will propose a voting system "which discounts party power ... and is devised solely for the health of the democracy". He should not be unduly surprised, seeing that Mr Blair has initiated events in the wrong order.

It would have been far better had he called a referendum first. The electorate should have been given a choice of several systems. Only then should Lord Jenkins' committee have been convened, their job being to decide the precise details of the system.

A second referendum might have been necessary, but at least we could be sure that a reformed electoral system, if asked for, would be implemented sooner rather than later.

By implementing a "committee stage" before he has ascertained whether there is a demand for electoral reform, Mr Blair may well be wasting taxpayer's money, he cannot tell. Worse, he may find, at a later date, that electoral reform suits him, but the voters have tired of his government and are no longer willing to listen to it.

NEIL INGOE
Woking, Surrey

Sir: According to recent reports some of the trade unions affiliated to the Labour Party, together with the Conservative Party leadership, are preparing to oppose any move from the first-past-the-post system for elections to the House of Commons.

The answer, of course, is that the electorate are actually going to be allowed a direct voice on the matter in a referendum. I hope that voters will take on board the fact that in electing their leaders

and chief officers, the Conservative Party, the Labour Party and most trade unions have long abandoned plurality voting, and have substituted some system of second ballot, alternative vote or proportional representation.

Clearly, for them, what is sauce for the goose is not sauce for the gander.

STEPHEN G LINSTEAD
Solihull, West Midlands

Pte Ryan's trauma

Sir: As well as reviewing *Saving Private Ryan* ("Killing time killing Nazis", 10 September), I hope you will be covering its potential effect upon surviving war veterans. Over the past few years, I have seen an increasing number of people suffering from delayed post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)

suffering from delayed post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) resulting from wartime experiences.

Complaints have included nightmares, flashbacks, intense feelings of guilt, difficulties relating to others, preoccupying thoughts. These complaints have often been related to other events in the individuals' lives – death of a spouse, death of a wartime comrade, increasing time to think about the past because of illness or retirement – but are sometimes triggered by specific events, such as the D-Day anniversary memorials. It seems likely that, as in America, this film and the accompanying coverage will trigger delayed PTSD for some individuals and I trust that a percentage of the profits is being used to help such people.

Although I will see the film myself, I am not entirely convinced that the entertainment/education of the many is entirely worth the suffering of the few, particularly when they have already suffered.

Dr CHRIS ALLEN
*Consultant Clinical Psychologist
Stoke Mandeville Hospital
Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire*

A potter's legacy

Sir: The name of the potter Bernard Leach is renowned throughout the world. He lived for a long period in Japan; in 1920 he returned to the UK and started Leach pottery at St Ives. After the Second World War he made standard ware in stoneware of excellent design and made individual pieces in stoneware and porcelain. He wrote *A Potter's Book*, which was translated into several languages.

In the Fifties he married his third wife, Janet. Janet Leach died last year. Her collection of pots and artifacts will be offered in a major sale at Bonhams, auctioneers of London, in three sales taking place in one day on 16 September.

It is vital that important pots made by Bernard Leach and documents and books owned by him should stay in the public domain and not be bought by private collectors or museums abroad unless they are scrutinised by people who are competent to judge.

HENRY W ROTHSCHILD
Cambridge

Change of planning

Sir: In his letter about the Trafford Centre in Greater Manchester (10 September), Mark Brockbank says "The planning process is carried out under the rules laid down by the Government" and "Permission was given for Trafford development to go ahead because the House of Lords ruled that the law said there was no reason why it could not".

Permission for the Trafford Centre was given under a previous policy in a previous government. It is the policy which determines the planning process. At that time, the government of the day was lenient towards out-of-town development, and negative to the role of the planning system, which it saw as inhibiting competition.

Now we are moving away from the mistakes of the past; such permission would be far more difficult to obtain.

Section 54A of the Town & Country Planning Act (1990) gives priority to the local authority's Development Plan – prepared with public involvement and in accordance with current policy. This policy requires that the development plan looks first at town centre sites, makes use of previously developed land and aims to minimise travel.

Planning Policy Guidance Note 1 (1997) states that "an applicant who proposes development which is clearly in conflict with the development plan would need to produce convincing reasons why the plan should not prevail". Planners knew then that the building of the Trafford Centre was not the right thing to do – it is only now that government agrees with us.

TREVOR ROBERTS
*President
The Royal Town Planning Institute
London W1*

Fashions in faith

Sir: With the benefit of hindsight, much of what passed for biblical and theological scholarship in the last 150 years (letters 4, 9 September) now looks like a series of fads which expressed the culture of the day.

Molly Rosenthal's apparent liking for "questioning" faith may be another one of those fads. Whilst questioning God and wreathing with problems is basic to biblical faith (most obviously in the Psalms), there is a place for conviction too. The rejection of certainty as a need for the spiritually immature not only feels rather superior but parallels a wider cultural disdain for authority and the idea that things can be taken on trust. In a generation or two, Ms Rosenthal's perspective (and probably her reliance on modern cosmology too) may look just as dated as previous versions of "cultural Christianity".

The Rev DAVID KEEN
Yeovil, Somerset

IN BRIEF

BBC stopped broadcasting to Thailand? These people, many British-educated, now had to watch CNN (considered very inferior) to receive foreign news broadcasts.

The answer, of course, is that the BBC transmissions to South-east Asia used one of Rupert Murdoch's satellites and he stopped that, for fear that unbiased BBC reporting might damage his commercial interests in China. He has damaged British relations with

several friendly South-east Asian countries. Is he going to be allowed to ruin football as well?

SUSAN TRITTON
Edinburgh

Sir: The next time Uri Geller gives his inner divinity an outing (letter, 11 September) on some Saturday night light entertainment programme, he might like to try returning a badly twisted spoon to its perfect original shape. A truly serious purpose.

DAMIAN MURRAY
Leeds

It also means that all apples must be carefully wiped and washed, labelled and described. Do not forget, too, that we have to be very careful about the basket in which your apples are displayed.

All that is fairly simple and straightforward. But remember, too, that the apples you give away must be on the list of approved fruit circulated by the European Union, and that it is a crime to give away species not recognised by Brussels.

The shape and dimension of the apples must be within the prescribed limits laid down by Brussels. It might be of some assistance if you send up for our companion volume, *Towards a European Apple: Some Notes*.

This means that the measurements of each apple should be logged and the shapes sketched on the appropriate forms.

grubs and insects in apples are technically, livestock and should be looked after as such?

Perhaps you ought to send up for our helpful leaflet, *Blimey, if I'd Known It was Going to Be This Kind of Bureaucratic Nightmare, I'd Have Thrown The Bloody Apples Away in The First Place!*

This will tell you the basic laws governing the tricky process of throwing apples away.

But please never forget one thing. We are here to help and to make things easier for you.

Thank you.

CORRECTION: Yesterday I wrote Andrew Lloyd Webber is one of the great cultural heroes of our time. This should, of course, have read: "one of the great cultural heroes of our time". Sorry.

Can you resist the poisoned apple of bureaucracy?



MILES KINGTON

This will tell you the basic laws governing the tricky process of throwing apples away

provided with adequate toilet and hand-washing facilities? Did you know that your windfall apple char-

traditionally put our excess apples in baskets outside our houses, marked "Windfalls – Please Take". It's a nice custom.

For a start, it's not cruel like fox-hunting. And it shows a touch of generosity perhaps needed in this modern world.

But before you put your windfall apples out to be taken, it's as well that you are acquainted with the law concerning such fruit.

Did you know, for instance, that it is illegal to put out windfall apples in baskets on public property and that it should be restricted to your own land?

Did you know that it is illegal to accept any money in return for your windfalls unless the figures are included on your tax returns and you are duly registered as a "licensed fruit-seller"? Why not send up for

Windfall Apples – All You Need To Know
A Message from New Labour

Hello! This is autumn, the time when we go blackberrying and mushroom picking, and when we

THE INDEPENDENT

1 CANADA SQUARE, CANARY WHARF, LONDON E14 5DL TELEPHONE: 0171 293 2000 OR 0171 345 2000 FAX: 0171 293 2435 OR 0171 345 2435
THE INDEPENDENT ON THE INTERNET: WWW.INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

Forget "fat cats" and focus on fighting inequality

IT IS tempting to cheer on John Edmonds and the TUC as they lay into managers on huge bonuses and salaries as "greedy bastards", despite the crude nature of this language. For one thing, TUC members, many of them having their pay held down by the Government, must have been glad to hear someone give vent to their frustrations.

Mr Edmonds's comments have a deeper resonance. The widening gap between rich and poor is a legitimate concern. Only last week, a UN report ranked Britain one of the most unequal societies in the developed world: nearly a fifth of the population live below its measure of the poverty line. Meanwhile, there can be little doubt that the rich have become very much richer.

There have been abuses, especially in the privatised utilities. Sell-offs of those firms at prices below their market cost kept their monopoly position intact. This has meant that directors' share options have risen far beyond improvements in performance can justify. Hence, the public anger at the pay of directors of rail and water companies.

Concentrating on a few abnormal cases, however, clouds our view of the big picture. In a classic example of British class politics and envy, the country has for too long focused on those cases, to the exclusion of other issues of pay and inequality. Increasing access to new technology, education, and jobs is the key to reducing poverty: shouting at the rich will not improve the situation on one so-called "sink" estate, or save one family snared in poverty.

There are no easy answers to the problem of inequality. Edmonds's call for higher taxation on top earners is an emotional, not a rational response: such measures would do little to bridge the gap between rich and poor. There are simply too few really high earners to pay for a sustained attack on poverty. If the public really does want to tackle social exclusion, it will have to pay more in taxes – and that includes those earning what many would consider relatively modest wages.

The Government is already taking action to make sure that utilities can no longer abuse their market dominance. The regulators appointed by government are to be merged, given more power, and given a role in relating pay to performance. More competition is opening up the gas, telecoms and electricity industries, preventing them reaping easy profits. This, in particular, should have a restraining effect on wage settlements.



As for "fat cats" in the private sector, there seems little the Government can do directly. It can, however, make sure that corporate governance is reviewed. Remuneration committees and company boards are notoriously weak when it comes to standing up to powerful employees, many of whom are friends of those who sit in judgement on their salaries. They need to be tougher. They should ensure that losses are punished in pay packets, just as much as profits are rewarded.

More broadly, it seems as if the Government will have to look again at the fetish it has made of refusing to raise direct taxes. There seems little doubt that Labour's terror at tax rises, driven by memories of the 1992 election, is now outdated. Whatever caution we need in approaching the evidence of opinion polls, they consistently show a huge drop in the numbers of those resisting tax rises since then.

There needs to be a vigorous debate on taxation: new ideas are desperately needed. To take just one, the tax burden could be lifted at the bottom end of the scale, helping millions on low incomes escape the poverty trap of losing most of their wages in tax and benefit withdrawals. Only such measures, along with higher taxes across the board, could pay for a real attack on inequality. That would be better than a mere spasm of anger, aimed at an unpopular minority.

Remember those who risk their lives

OF ALL the compromises involved in the Northern Ireland peace process, those surrounding the release of paramilitary prisoners are the hardest to take. Quite apart from the moral probity of releasing convicted killers before their term is served, there are practical problems as well. If the Maze is eventually to close, and "de-militarisation" proceed by shrinking the RUC, what is to happen to all those who have served the Crown in its long conflict in Northern Ireland?

Unfortunately, the Government has not done very well in beginning to answer this question. There are reports that the Treasury, against the advice of the Northern Ireland Secretary, Mo Mowlam, is trying to limit redundancy payments to ex-prison officers to an amount within its existing budget. A more short-sighted piece of penny-pinching would be difficult to imagine.

These reports send exactly the wrong signal to the forces of law and order in Northern Ireland, at just the wrong time. As prisoner releases were unsettling Unionist opinion, and many within the RUC, the news that terms for those laid off were going to be decided by the Treasury in London was the last thing the peace process needed.

Quite apart from this, there is the moral issue. Prison officers and RUC personnel have put their lives on the line for the public time after time. Prison officers have been expected to tolerate a virtual prisoner-of-war camp atmosphere inside the Maze, complete with "consultation" with the inmates. RUC patrols have come under fire from snipers day after day.

To say that Sinn Fein, which spent decades trying to undermine the British government, can now be pillars of that rule, is one thing. To say that those who always supported the rule of law should be jettisoned on the cheap is quite another. The Treasury, in the shape of its Chief Secretary, Stephen Byers, should reconsider its request of Mo Mowlam. Reconciliation and fair treatment should apply to all sides in the Province; that should include those employed by the state just as much as anyone else.

Mothers' pride

THE DEBUNKING of our new urban myths continues apace. Not only are "new lads" revealed by a survey as using mobile telephones to call their mothers more than anyone else; "new ladettes" also turn out to be a less than exciting group. They have admitted to *Bella* magazine that they do not enjoy sex very much. Is this good or bad news for the makers of Viagra?

Unions must realise this is the only Labour government they have

THE LAST time Labour came into office after a long period out of it, a jolly joke circulated among union leaders. It was about the trade union delegation to the TUC Congress which held a lavish reception at which the guest of honour was Harold Wilson.

So lavish, in fact that when the delegates got back to London, the union's Treasurer questioned the cost. Ah well, the General Secretary explained, Harold was detained until late at Downing Street on vital government business and we had to keep drinking until he arrived.

But then the following year the costs of the union's annual reception proved to be wildly over budget once more. With just a hint of sarcasm, the Treasurer asked whether Harold Wilson had been late again "No", the general secretary replied wearily, "George Brown was early".

The story conjures precisely the cosy – if frequently also acrimonious – family atmosphere that joined what used to be called the political and industrial wings of the Labour movement when the party was last in power. To most of those now inhabiting Downing Street, however, including Tony Blair, the joke will be just a ghostly and baffling throwback to a past that no longer has any meaning. All that has gone.

The present Prime Minister certainly does not see the TUC – at whose general council dinner he will be a somewhat reluctant guest of honour this evening – as an inseparable sibling of the party he leads.

The links between a Labour government and the TUC are not, to put it mildly, what they were.

True, old habits die harder than you might have thought. John Prescott,

the (very soft-drinking) equivalent in power of George Brown, was there yesterday; Peter Mandelson who, as I reminded my colleague Andrew Grice at the weekend, actually worked at the TUC 20 years ago, is cutting short his trip to South Africa to speak to the Congress on Thursday.

David Blunkett and Mo Mowlam are going; Gordon Brown would certainly be braving criticisms of the high level of sterling and interest rates, were he not in Japan. Instead this task will be left to Eddie George, no less, the Governor of the Bank of England.

The number of ministers elbowing each other out of the way in the rush to Blackpool is one of the reasons why this year's Congress is proving more interesting than many in the recent past; the other is that at least some of the fears being expressed by manufacturing unions about the economy may well be echoed elsewhere, including among industrialists.

This is flattering. But union leaders should not be lulled by this welcome attention into forgetting that the world has changed beyond recognition since the last time they met a year into a Labour government.

To judge by the blood-curdling threats of industrial action in the public sector by John Edmonds, or by Roger Lyons' tendency to blame British interest rates for every factory closure in the North East, this is a lesson they still find difficult to learn.

The sense of grievance among public sector workers, whose pay is increasing at only half the rate of those in the private sector workers, is real; especially in the case of nurses and teachers, whose commitment and quality is critical to the two services which Labour won the election

DONALD MACINTYRE

Labour's public credibility depends on its ability to defeat the first public sector strike that comes along

promising to improve. But the unions face a severe problem in contemplating strikes, as Mr Edmonds must know. Tony Blair and Gordon Brown's economic credibility would depend on their ability to defeat the first public sector strike that comes their way; and the rank and file membership may be quite intelligent enough to realise it.

Similarly it positively undermines the case for the Bank of England's remit to be widened to take more account of the problems of manufacturing industry if Lyons pretends that a collapse in the world microchip market, caused by the Asian economic crisis, was not to blame for the Fujitsu and Siemens closures.

The only organisation ignoring those factors is the British Conservative Party, and they at least have the excuse that their job is opposition, on whatever grounds.

What has made the TUC an important forum this year – apart from

the understandable desire of ministers to rub shoulders briefly with leaders of Labour-affiliated unions who still matter at the party conference, not to mention, perhaps, leadership contests in the distant future – is largely the work of one man, John Monks.

Mr Monks is an articulate, thoughtful and thoroughly modern leader of what he himself never ceases to remind interviewers in the country's largest voluntary organisation. It may be unfashionable to say so, but the TUC congress, in its less publicised debates, discusses, often before anyone else does, a whole series of bread and butter issues from safety at work to productivity, which are of genuinely national importance.

Mr Monks has stressed continually the value of industrial partnership. He understands that the unions have problems of their own which they cannot expect government of any colour to sort out for them.

With membership of TUC-affiliated unions down to 6.6m compared with 13m in 1990, the unions have a duty to organise as well as moan, to paraphrase the old American Industrial Workers of the World slogan.

That is why the TUC has started to hire and train expert young union recruiters for the private sector. Mr Monks has shown some signs of irritation with colleagues apparently anxious to talk industry into a worse recession than it may already face. He understands that political lobbying may be a more potent weapon than threats of industrial action. And his proven negotiating skills are one of the reasons why the TUC made some real gains in employee rights in the *Fairness at Work* White Paper.

True to form some of his colleagues

then immediately denounced the outcome to the detriment of their own reputations among their members.

Employers, including newspaper industry employers like Rupert Murdoch's News International, have now embarked on a ferocious lobbying campaign to water down some of these provisions. There is certainly a case for unions at a time when they are proclaiming their justified worries about jobs, not demanding so much labour market regulation that it, too, threatens employment.

Nevertheless Mr Mandelson would be unwise to bow too far to the employers by unravelling the carefully constructed settlement which produced his predecessor's White Paper. The settlement took a great deal of negotiation – and Mr Monks is well aware that he will have a ready audience in the Parliamentary Labour Party if he is in a position to cry foul on an agreement which the unions thought was a done deal. Nor should the TUC be ignored: if John Monks' strong support for EMU holds, despite TGWU opposition this week – and his case is stronger in view of the higher rate of sterling – it will become a highly important instrument for delivering a yes vote in a referendum.

In return however union leaders should listen to Mr Monks a little more and use the old speak of 20 years ago a little less. As Mr Prescott reminded them yesterday, they are listened to a lot more by this administration than the last. The minimum wage, better rights at work, and at least the right to recognition if a ballot votes for it, is more than any Tory administration was prepared to grant.

In the end, this is the only Labour government they have got.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I want a pluralist parliament for a pluralist people in a Northern Ireland in which all of us, unionist and nationalist, work together."

David Trimble,
Northern Ireland's First Minister

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"It is better to die on your feet than to live on your knees."

Dolores Ibárruri,
Spanish communist and trade unionist



JOIN NOW AND
GET A FREE
MOBILE PHONE

Being a member of the UK's leading motoring organisation has always provided peace of mind. Now with Personal Membership you can have the added benefit of an AA Member's digital phone package worth £75*. With substantial savings on running costs, a free in-car charger and "quick-dial" access to AA services, there's never been a better time to join. Call now for more details.

*Subject to a Vodafone credit check. This offer is available to Personal Members joining via a continuous payment method with all but the basic roadside cover. Also available to existing Personal Members.

TO OUR MEMBERS WE'RE THE
4th EMERGENCY SERVICE

TO JOIN
FREEPHONE
0800
444
999
EXT 6003
LIVE & OPEN 24 HRS
WWW.AA.COM

MONITOR

ALL THE NEWS OF THE WORLD
International opinion
on the Starr report



ty and effectiveness needed to lead not only his own nation, but also the global community that looks to him for precious leadership.

Korea Times

WITH SCORES of millions of people starving all around the globe, or fleeing as refugees from war, flood, pestilence, and privation, the world heading into global recession that savages and demeans lives, who the hell cares whether a serial

lecher named Bill cavorted at the White House with a suddenly love-struck "sick" girl named Monica?

Philippine Star

HE HAS humiliated his wife, embarrassed his daughter, demeaned himself and debased his office. Continuing the fight to stay on will only exacerbate this damage. He should resign. The Australian

reduced to a semen-stained shell and the government of the sole remaining superpower will be paralysed even as the world faces its worst economic crisis since the 1930s.

Straits Times, Singapore

House have exactly been exempted

of sexual ruditude.

Hindustan Times, India

AT A time when the world com-

and economic crisis, the lack of American leadership is a cause of concern. The flip side of the quandary is that Clinton's battered leadership does not seem to contain the vitality

South China Morning Post

PANDORA

NEW LABOUR cabinet members were very keen to attend this week's Trades Union Congress in Blackpool. However, Pandora has learned from a senior Cabinet source that John Prescott and Mo Mowlam were the only two originally invited. After urgent requests, now even Peter Mandelson is cutting short his trade visit to South Africa to rush back to the seaside gathering, although, following his decision to distance the UK from EU directives on workers' rights, he may wish he'd stayed south of the Kalahari. Claire Short and David Blunkett are also going, while Chancellor Gordon Brown sincerely regrets that the economic crisis meetings in Japan will make it impossible for him to attend. A TUC spokesman maintains that ministers were invited to attend specific debates and adds, "I could not tell you what invitations went out at what time".

WHAT IS it about rich entrepreneurs and hot air? Richard Branson has just announced that, after almost losing his life in a disastrous North African balloon mishap, he will be making another attempt to circumnavigate the globe next year. Meanwhile, sportswear designer Tommy Hilfiger had his promotional blimp destroyed over New York City in a storm on Monday while advertising the launch of his latest branch in Macy's department store. (Indeed Macy's is being sued for the damage its own balloon caused to a woman during last year's Thanksgiving Day Parade.) Can we expect to see Mohamed al-Fayed - no stranger to hot air - floating skywards over Knightsbridge soon? Pandora supposes it depends on that passport.

ANOTHER ENTREPRENEUR, John DeLorean (pictured), whose gullwing sportscar project in Northern Ireland failed after producing just 8,500 models, has named his list of the greatest cars ever built. Starting with the Ford Model T, the list, in American Esquire, includes the Ferrari GTO, the Acura NSX, the Austin Mini, Lotus 25, Pontiac GTO (designed by DeLorean for General Motors), the Mercedes 300SL gullwing, Mercedes S600 and the Citroen SM. But nowhere on the list is the DeLorean itself. If the designer didn't think his car was all that brilliant, he could have saved the British taxpayers £3m - the sum given him by both Labour and Tory governments to help build a soon-obsolete collectors' item.

WHILE THE British vice consul on Ibiza, Michael Birrell, has just resigned in outrage over the sex-and-

drug antics on the island, Rupert Murdoch's SkyTV is all set to import a shocking new game show called *Fright Heat* to nearby Mallorca. Thirty-two "unassumingly contestants from England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales are transported to Mallorca and thrown into a hotbed of crazy, sassy activity under Balearic skies", states the Sky PR release. The stated aim is to turn everyone's holiday into "a beach-style take on *Gladiators*", and of course "there is always room for romance and raunchy antics". Won't the locals, who have been striving to turn Mallorca into an up-market resort in recent years, be pleased with this?

IS THIS how a coalition government begins? It seems that many ranking Liberal Democrats are receiving a Labour Party mailing urging them to vote for the pro-Blair slate of candidates in the elections for the National Executive Committee. Those who have received it, according to the *Liberal Democrat News*, include Ray Love (Winchester Lib Dem councillor), Bob Bailey (president of Brighton and Hove Lib Dems) and Mike Tuify (former Lib Dem leader of Lambeth Council). "I was about to vote in the election," Ray Love told Pandora. "But my conscience caught up with me."

WHILE ON the subject of dubious coalitions, Pandora wonders what to make of Michael Portillo's forthcoming three-part series for Channel 4. Billed as Portillo's personal "quest for a new political agenda for the party", the former Tory Defence Secretary has filmed interviews with William Hague, Norman Tebbit, Chris Patten, Ken Clarke - and Peter Mandelson! What recipe for electoral success has spinmaster Mandy given his arch Tory rival? The necessity to keep in close communication with party members, using second class post?



WHILE THE British vice consul on Ibiza, Michael Birrell, has just resigned in outrage over the sex-and-

Why there are no real winners



TERENCE BLACKER
'The population has been drugged into a more subservient fatalism than any religion has managed'

THERE COMES a moment in your life when, in spite of every effort, you eventually become Kingsley Amis. For years, you have been bumbling onwards, amiably opinionated, generally rubbing along with colleagues and intimates, however unsatisfactory they may be.

Then one day, something happens. It might be an unsolicited telephone call from a window salesman, or the proliferation of identical blondes on game shows, or a stranger addressing you by your Christian name, or Richard Whiteley or a TV commercial for tampons. Suddenly, without warning, there you are, on the steps of your own private Garrick Club, red-faced, eyes bulging, a vein throbbing dangerously in the side of your head, consumed by a mighty, all-embracing Amisian rage against the modern world and the new ways that every day it finds to irritate you.

I've managed to hold off this moment for some time. I can't get enough of blondes on game shows; telephone salesmen who use my Christian name make me feel loved; there's something attractively saucy and subversive about being let into

girly secrets about the super-absorbency. Yet, twice a week, I become Kingsley Amis, and there's nothing I can do about it.

It's the look of the people as they queue at the newsagent or a post office on Wednesday or Saturday, slack-jawed with anticipation, caught between hope and despair; they wait for their stupid scratch card or lottery ticket like cows in

a milking parlour. I want to shake them, scream at them, implore them to get a life in which they are not spending time, energy and hope on a process that is both morally dubious and which dooms them to weekly disappointment.

Surely, when historians look back on these years, they will identify the national lottery as a perfect emblem of the spiritual poverty of the late twentieth century. Almost miraculously, it combines the tawdriest aspects of our recent past - something-for-nothing welfareism of the Seventies, the greed of the Eighties, the cringing obsession with sexhood and lifestyle of the Nineties. A brief shuddering glance at the lottery draw, shown every week on TV, reveals its origins. Lotteries have always gone down well in the world's poorer countries where despair, religious fantasy and cheap glamour feed off one another. The Saturday-night extravaganza put on by the BBC is so strikingly similar in its glitter, noise and vulgarity to the parody of a Third-World TV show on *The Fast Show* that one expects Caroline Aherne to come tripping on in nine-

inch heels and squeak "Scorpio".

Puritanical? The weekly flutter is no more than a bit of fun? Oh please. Consider how often in everyday life you hear the phrase "if I won the lottery". In the it-could-be-you culture, the numbers game has had a profound psychological influence on millions, all ideas of responsibility for one's own future being replaced by an easy, knuckle-brained faith in the roll of a few numbered balls. After all, why bother to improve your life if, on any Wednesday or Saturday, it can be transformed, materially and money being the new cure-all, spiritually?

No surprise, then, that it is those who can afford it least who spend most on the lottery every week. Tricked by an unlikely alliance of business, media interests and politicians, into believing that the miracle of Camelot will provide them with an escape from their lives, seduced into a mindset of greed, fantasy and laziness, a large proportion of the population has been drugged into a more subservient fatalism than any religion has managed.

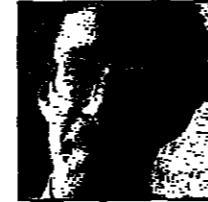
For many, it has indeed become a sort of religion. In the schools that

I occasionally visit to discuss my books, nothing shocks or disappoints the children as much as my scepticism in this area. Never mind Jesus, or Santa or the Tooth Fairy, the one article of faith they are brought up to believe in is the promised land, confected by Camelot. No wonder that, when any spare cash in the family budget goes towards the lottery, it is such indulgences as the buying of a paperback that are the first casualty.

The very middle class sophisticates who would deplore the expenditure of dole money at a betting shop indulge this more mindless form of gambling. Political leaders, who once might have been expected to question its moral wisdom, divert their eyes and count the cash going. Those who would squawk at the higher rate of taxes excuse their indulgence on the grounds that a tiny part of their money may go to a good cause.

It is pointless and mindless, passive and omniscient, the pastime of a nation so seduced by cheap miracles that even its national football team employs a faith-healer. I am sure Sir Kingsley would have agreed.

Doctor, doctor - can I have a fag and a chip butty now?



JEREMY LAURANCE
'After 20 years of scolding us about tobacco and cholesterol, experts have had their comeuppance'

RED FACES should be in abundance among the heart specialists and health charities at the moment. After 20 years of scolding us about the risk of tobacco and cholesterol, they have got their comeuppance. The world's largest and longest study of heart disease, published a week ago, has shown that these risk factors are, apparently, irrelevant. It was an astonishing finding and it came from an impeccable source - the World Health Organisation's "Monica" project which has compared the health records of 38 populations in 21 countries over the last two decades. Preliminary results presented at the European Congress of Cardiology in Vienna showed that heart disease rates were declining in most populations but there was no link - no link at all - with the standard risk factors of smoking, blood pressure and cholesterol.

You might have expected such a finding to provoke an outbreak of soul searching amongst the scientific establishment. Every doctor and health educator who has ever issued nannyng advice to people to cut down on fags and chip butties had received a sharp reminder that causes of heart disease are far from simple. But no. The statement issued by Professor Brian Pentecost, medical director of the British Heart Foundation, said bluntly: "The unexpected findings in no way detract from the current health messages, such as stopping smoking and eating less fatty foods."

Call me old-fashioned but I had always thought that the difference between medicine and witchcraft was that medicine relied on hard scientific evidence. For the medical director of Britain's leading heart charity to airily dismiss the findings of the world's largest heart study as "in no way detracting" from current health advice fair takes the breath away.

Let me stress this was no back-of-the-envelope job. Indeed the British Heart Foundation itself contributed almost £900,000 towards its cost. The Monica researchers studied 150,000 heart attacks and 180,000 risk factor records and the results were sent to a data centre in Helsinki for analysis. That showed that there were large differences in the rate of decline in heart disease in different centres even where they had similar trends in risk factors.

For example, in the decade from 1983-94, north Glasgow had the worst heart disease rate in the world for women and the second worst for middle-aged men (after north Karelia, Finland). Yet over the 10-year period the risk factors of smoking, blood pressure and cholesterol declined as fast in Glasgow as in any other population. Despite this fall, the heart disease rate actually rose among women and there was only a small decline among men.

Where does this leave us? If Professor Pentecost is to be believed, exactly where we were before. He said:

"Heart disease is known to have many possible causes. The way in which these combine to affect overall risk is highly complex. The effect of a reduction or removal in risk factors are likely to vary across individuals." Professor Hugh Tunstall-Pedoe, one of Monica's driving forces and the director of the cardiovascular epidemiology unit at the University of Dundee, at least acknowledged that the results were "a bit of a surprise". But his efforts to explain the findings - difficulties in standardising measurements across the different countries, the long time lag before risk factors take effect - have a hollow ring to them. These problems should have been clear 20 years ago and if the researchers thought they were likely to invalidate the study why did they proceed with it?

To muddy the waters further, he offers a startling analogy to explain why no effect of smoking and cholesterol were found in the Monica study. "If you get eaten by a crocodile when you are expecting lions and tigers it does not mean that big cats have rubber teeth."

This raises more questions than it answers. All these years we have observed people carried off in their thousands by heart disease to an early death and we have assumed they were eaten by the lion of tobacco or the tiger of cholesterol when in fact many more died in the jaws of the crocodile of...what?

Professor Tunstall-Pedoe offers no suggestions but implies that there is something out there in the jungle (a virus, perhaps?) which is more dangerous than lions or tigers but still unidentified.

L The viral theory has some backers. This would fit with the epidemic nature of heart disease in the West which rose sharply in the Sixties and Seventies and has declined



in most countries since the 1980s as the Monica project has shown.

A second theory, as Professor Pentecost has suggested, is that wealth may improve survival. The Monica project showed that those countries where there was the most rapid increase in new treatments for heart disease were also those in which death rates were falling fastest. However, it was impossible to tell which treatments, if any, were most effective.

It is unclear, in other words, whether it is the quality of medical care that counts or some other factor associated with it. The countries with the best medical care tended to be the wealthiest and it may be that the material quality of life played as big a part in reducing death as the treatments themselves.

There are two lessons from the Monica study. The first is that despite decades of research and the expenditure of hundreds of millions of pounds there is still a great deal we do not understand about the first.

sized pump at the centre of our being. Yet to judge by the scientists' response to the finding you would think that it was all cut and dried. Just cut out smoking, check your blood pressure, reduce your cholesterol and you will be spared. As many people - some of them eminent heart specialists, themselves - who have led blameless lives and subsequently suffered heart disease know, it simply is not true.

The second lesson follows from the first. You cannot avoid heart disease in the way that you can avoid, say, lung cancer. If you do not smoke then the chances of your getting lung cancer are very, very small. But you may still succumb to heart disease even if you avoid smoking, drink a glass or two of claret, bicycle to work and follow all the other advice issued over the past two decades. It is clearly wise to heed the findings of earlier studies and steer clear of the lions and tigers but scientists do us a disservice if they fail to warn us that crocodiles may be about, too.

THE INDEPENDENT MULTI-BAND RADIO RECEIVER

£19.95 inc p&p

This powerful, light-weight multi-band radio is incredibly sensitive and can be tuned into hundreds of frequencies, many of them beyond the range of ordinary radios. And with squelch control and a telescopic antenna the reception is excellent.

The receiver measures 8" x 3½" x 2" (20cm x 9cm x 4½cm) and is powered by four x AA batteries (not supplied).

It will give hours of superb - and portable - entertainment.

The radio comes with an adaptor socket, carrying strap and full instructions, as well as an earphone socket (earphones not supplied).

Frequencies received:

FM radio 88 to 108

MHz; Aircraft Band 109

to 136 MHz; Public

Services 145 to 176 MHz.

It is on offer for just

£19.95 inc p&p.

HOW TO ORDER
Fill in the coupon and send together with cheque or postal order. NO CASH please.
THE INDEPENDENT MULTI-BAND RADIO RECEIVER OFFER, PO Box 9477, London E3 3SH.
For Access/Visa orders, please phone 0171 510 0191.
Or for enquiries please call 0171 510 0193.
We deliver to addresses in the UK only.
Please allow up to 28 days for delivery from receipt of order. Return within 7 days for refund if not completely satisfied. Offer valid while stocks last.

Please send my Multi-Band Radio Receiver @ £19.95 inc p&p.

I enclose a crossed cheque for £_____

addressed to **THE INDEPENDENT**, 9477, London E3 3SH.

or debit my Access/Visa account by this amount. My card number is: _____

Expiry Date: _____

Signature: _____

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

Post Code: _____

Send to: **THE INDEPENDENT MULTI-BAND RADIO RECEIVER OFFER, PO Box 9477, London E3 3SH.**

Please tick the box if you do not wish to receive further offers from The Independent Publishing Co. Ltd. Please tick the box if you do not wish to receive further offers from The Independent Publishing Co. Ltd.

Print Name: _____

Date: _____

There is a thing called society



PODIUM

MARTIN BROW
'From a speech by the president of the Sociology Section to the British Association for Science conference, Cardiff'

closure. While it may be the case that sociologists have a unique opportunity at present, it may also be true that they are unprepared to take it. If we ask what sociology offers for policy purposes today as a major theoretical resource, the answer broadly could be summed up as "communicationalism".

Communicationalism has become popular for supplying propositions about how society works and what its current state is. In brief, the "communicationalist position" is that responsible social behaviour arises out of a framework of norms and values and these, in turn, stem from the experience of identifiable communities, which are based in families and look to other communities as shared institutions. In Amitai Etzioni's words, societies are "nothing but communities of communities".

The theory behind communicationalism is probably 50 years out of date.

The list of issues communicationalism fails to address is just too extensive for it to command the centre stage of policy thinking - class, social identity and difference, conflict, public order, religious fundamentalism, nationalism, new technology, the mass media, globalisation. When sociologists rework the idea of society to take account of the new social realities we need to remove the deeper premise in the logic of communicationalism, namely the belief that society depends above all on a membership bond between individuals and a particular community. Almost invariably this takes on a territorial basis.

Globalisation has produced a new situation for sociology because it has generalised the idea of society beyond any local, territorial arrangement. It forces us to conceptualise it in a way which is independent of every inference except that of the species and its environment. The world today pushes us, as it does in Anthony Giddens' work, towards discovering the pure concept of society.

Sociologists themselves are to my mind doing fundamental work today in recording and accounting for changes. But we need to promote theory if we are to achieve recognition of their reality and importance among policy makers.

TUESDAY PAPER A MAP OF LOVE

Does Clinton need sex therapy?

IN THESE supposedly rational times, the spectacle of someone repeatedly engaging in sexual behaviour which is dangerously risky and potentially exceedingly self-destructive, provokes many people to resort to some psychopathological explanation. Many see President Clinton as an Artful Dodger who just got caught, or just someone who, as Gore Vidal once memorably argued of powerful men, has more opportunity than most to seduce impressionable women.

The more psychologically minded wonder whether he is a sick man, unable to control his sexual impulses, hooked into a repetitive series of sordid encounters despite his every effort to resist – in other words, addicted to sex.

The problem with the indiscriminate application of the term “addiction” to unwanted, disreputable, or seemingly inexplicable and repetitive behaviour, is that it more often than not involves a circular argument. So, in relation to Bill Clinton’s sexual activities, there is more than a touch of the “Clinton cannot keep his hands off pretty, young women because he is addicted to sex – Clinton is addicted to sex because he cannot keep his hands off pretty, young women” kind of reasoning. Nothing very much is explained by labelling Clinton’s sexual indiscretions the result of an addiction, unless there is some additional, supporting evidence, distinct from the behaviour the label is supposed to explain.

In the maelstrom, it is possible to detect a temptation to resort to the world of psychopathology and psychotherapy for cause-and-effect explanations – the President himself has spoken of “feeling pain, closure and healing” – and there has even been discussion as to whether he has sought, or been offered, psychiatric treatment. But it is a temptation, like all those other temptations, that might be better resisted.

Psychiatrists and psychologists, criminologists and philosophers, have all wrestled with the problems of impulse control for years now: problems of people peculiarly prone to relentless acts of mindless violence; repetitive stealing fire-setting; pathological drinking; drugs and gambling. In the case of addiction to drugs and alcohol, there is supporting evidence of mind-altering effects of drugs such as opiates, alcohol, barbiturates and the benzodiazepines. Take enough of certain mind-altering drugs for long enough and then, when suddenly deprived of them, your body and mind experience a variety of well-recognised and distressing withdrawal symptoms.

Even here, however, there is room for argument. Modern cognitive therapists insist that it makes better sense to see the persistent misuse of alcohol, not as evidence of some physiological “addiction”, but as a result of the way that the individual, over time, has learned to use the substance, taking into account the interaction between the individual’s personality, and the social and cultural context in which the



ANTHONY CLARE

Is he a sick man, hooked into a repetitive series of sordid encounters despite his every effort to resist?

substance abuse occurs. Using such an argument, Clinton’s sexual behaviour is not so much the result of some kind of physiological addiction, as the consequence of a learned view of masculine sexual activity, conditioned by the environment in which he developed, and a culture within which he works.

When it comes to addiction to work, shopping, food or sex, the problem becomes much more complicated. There is a dearth of consistent physiological findings to support true physical addiction, although there is much speculation concerning changes in brain neurotransmitter functions, endorphins (the opiate-like substances produced in the brain), andamines such as serotonin and norepinephrine, believed to be highly important in the regulation of mood.

In the American Psychiatric Association’s classification guide, the 4th edition of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual*, or DSM-IV as it is called, there is a section devoted to problems of impulse control. Sexual addiction does not figure, but there are references to kleptomania, pyromania and pathological gambling.

In each of these activities, there is a common cluster of behaviours. First, there is a persistent failure to resist impulses to steal objects that are not needed for personal use or gain (kleptomania), to set fire to things (pyromania) or to gamble. Then, there is an increasing sense of tension immediately prior to performing the pathological behaviour, and pleasure, gratification or relief at the time of performing it. In the case of pathological gambling there are repeated unsuccessful efforts to control, cut back or stop gambling, and lies to family members, therapists and others, to conceal the extent of involvement, and the individual’s marriage, job, and educational or career opportunities, are invariably jeopardised because of the gambling.

Extrapolating from the categories of gambling or kleptomania to sex is not difficult, and there has been no shortage of experts prepared to do so in the case of President Clinton. There is the President’s seeming inability to control his sexual impulses. There are the lies, evasions, justifications and deceptions. There is the very obvious risk and jeopardy of having to believe him.

More repetitive than the sexual behaviour, is a pattern of lying, going back to whether or not Clinton had been drafted, and before. To speak of pathological lying might be semantically more accurate than to speak of sexual addiction. And it may be the lying rather than the sex that will bring the President down.

to family, public status and job. There may, or may not be, various psychological and physiological tensions prior to his indulging the behaviour, and relief, additional to sexual relief, afterwards. But the question begged by this purely descriptive approach is the question that the categories are supposed to be all about: how far can Clinton be said to have some impairment of control over his behaviour?

We know he didn’t control it. But do we know whether he wanted to control it, whether he tried repeatedly to control it, and repeatedly failed?

And this is where it starts to become even more complicated. Despite the enormous detail concerning Clinton’s sexual behaviour contained in the Starr Report, we don’t know that much of Clinton’s own view of it. The President has spent so much time lying and deflecting and denying that it is not possible to conclude, with any confidence, whether he himself felt he could not control himself, or believed that he really did not have to.

It is an important distinction. Monica Lewinsky’s account does suggest that he tried to terminate the relationship on 19 February 1996, because he “no longer felt right about their intimate relationship”, but within six weeks they were meeting again. Could he have stopped? Did he have distressing physiological and psychological symptoms when he refrained from seeing her? Did he have a sexual relationship with anyone else in the meantime? And does any of this really matter now, since, addicted or not, Clinton now has little choice but to cease his impulsive behaviour?

But yes, it does matter – for the sting in the tail of the addiction argument, if one can put it so inelegantly, is that it plainly categorises the President as a pathologically sick man who needs therapy. And the therapy he needs is plainly more than the spiritual ministry provided by the Reverend Jesse Jackson and his friends. It also has profound implications for the presidency, in that it suggests that the man with responsibility for the security of America, and indeed the world, suffers from a pathological inability (as distinct from a chosen refusal) to control his impulses.

Many may prefer to accept that Clinton freely chose to involve himself in repeated sexual encounters with a 21-year-old White House employee, rather than being helpless and in the grip of a pathological disturbance of behaviour. Anyway, we will almost certainly never know Clinton’s sexual motivation, for even if he were to tell us, we would not know whether to believe him.

More repetitive than the sexual behaviour, is a pattern of lying, going back to whether or not Clinton had been drafted, and before. To speak of pathological lying might be semantically more accurate than to speak of sexual addiction. And it may be the lying rather than the sex that will bring the President down.



Bill Clinton prepares to put his case to the American people in his television address

Patten ducks mandarin attacks

IF EVER a book was in the eye of the storm, then *East and West* is it. As the last governor of Hong Kong, Chris Patten spent five years locking horns not just with the Chinese government, but also with a group of Whitehall mandarins and their parliamentary sympathisers, who considered his espousal of democratic rights for the colony ill-judged. Then came an unjolly and much-publicised row when Patten delivered his manuscript to its commissioning publishers, HarperCollins. The proprietor, Rupert Murdoch, decided to reject what Patten had written, reputedly without having read a word of it.

The immediate upshot was that, while the book went to Macmillan for a yet bigger advance, Murdoch lost the services of his gifted publishing director, Stuart Proffitt. In Hong Kong, meanwhile, the situation has started to deteriorate faster than anyone dared fear. Party this is due to the general meltdown in Asian markets; but partly the new authorities have already shown an interventionist hand. Speculation by governmental investors and cronyism have both appeared as new features in the Hong Kong cauldron.

Given the noise that preceded it, Patten’s book is almost bound to disappoint. Whatever else it may be, it certainly is not a blow-by-blow account of the wrangles that plagued his gov-



TUESDAY BOOK

EAST AND WEST
BY CHRIS PATTEN, MACMILLAN, £20

ernorship, though he hints darkly that the truth, were it known, would be found unbelievable. He has something to say about his term of office, but the reader will search in vain for any mention of, say, Sir Percy Cradock, chief among that Whitehall clique who, as Patten sees it, advocated a policy of self-abasement towards Beijing.

Rather Patten, as elder statesman-in-waiting, elects for circumspection. Only Murdoch comes in for a killing punch. Patten reminds us that the Australian once boasted that his sort of broadcasting represents an unambiguous threat to totalitarian regimes, but subsequently “reacted unambiguously to objections from Peking [sic] by booting the BBC from his satellite channels”. Touché. Was this included in the manuscript originally delivered to HarperCollins?

Mainly, *East and West* is an extended exposition of Patten’s own political philosophy within the context of his Hong Kong experience, decked out with snatches of autobiography and repeated censure of the Beijing regime. In essence, Patten is a Butlerite with a fierce faith in free trade and liberal economics as the universal panacea for all the world’s ills, including human-rights abuses.

Heading his list of priorities is the rule of law: the impartial guarantor of both economic and civic health. His key questions are whether such a package can be exported Asia-wide, and how disruptive to the emerging global order any section (ie Chinese) rejection of it may be.

By insisting on the universal applicability of his recipe, Patten begs both answers. It is in its detail, however, that some of his argument falters. In his most provocative chapter, “Asian Values”, he adroitly hobbles a silly stalling horse.

“Asian Values” is shorthand for the devil-may-care attitude that has supposedly attended the fast-track expansion of Far Eastern economies. But while Patten demonstrates that there is noth-

identify another main prop of Asian economic growth: cheap labour. The two surges in Hong Kong’s economy both depended on it, as well as on massive capital injections, particularly from Japan and the US. The colony’s own cheap labour fuelled the boom in the 1950s, and Guangdong province’s that of the 1980s. So this is an unaccountable oversight.

Such shortcomings place Patten’s book somewhat in the common ruck of Asia surveys, even though most readers will warm to its author as his account progresses. His greatest error, however, is the most pervasive. Contrary to liberal ideology, human rights are conventions, and as such have to be sold wherever they do not already exist. Patten’s incessant war against Beijing, however principled, may impede their sale where to him they matter most.

Conversely, *East and West* will certainly be taken most seriously in the accident. A large consignment is already on its way to Australia. Whether it will also appear in Hong Kong is the immediate test to come. If the new authorities are very lucky, Murdoch will buy up all the bookshops there and spare their blushes.

JUSTIN WINTLE



Chris Patten: an elder statesman in waiting?

Oxfam Flood Appeal

EMERGENCY

Right now in Bangladesh 20 million people face malnutrition and fatal diseases.

Floods have engulfed three-quarters of the country, ravaging nearly 30,000 villages, destroying crops, and making millions of people homeless. People have no clean drinking water or sanitation, and are vulnerable to potentially fatal water-borne diseases.

Your gift can help save lives

Oxfam is helping people to move to shelters, where they are safe from the floods. We are providing food, clean drinking water, and medicines.

But we need more money urgently. There will be no harvest this Autumn, and starvation is a real threat. The people of South Asia need your help now. Just £25 will buy food for 16 people for three weeks.

Please, send your gift to the
Oxfam Flood Appeal

Oxfam, Room BB13, FREEPOST, Oxford OX2 7BR

Yes, I want to help save lives.
Here is my gift of:

£50 £100 £250 £

Mr, Mrs, Miss, Ms

Address

Postcode

Please send to: Oxfam, Room BB13, FREEPOST, Oxford OX2 7BR

Flood Appeal Line 01865 313131



TUESDAY POEM

A MAP OF LOVE

BY DONALD JUSTICE

Your face more than others’ faces
Maps the half-remembered places
I have come to while I slept –
Continents a dream had kept
Secret from all waking folk
Till to your face I awoke,
And remembered then the shore,
And the dark interior.

From Donald Justice’s *Orpheus Hesitated Beside the Black River: poems 1952-1997* (Anvil, £8.95). Anvil Press celebrates its 30th birthday this autumn. Our poems this week come from its latest titles.

George Wallace

FOR MOST of his political career George Wallace, four times Governor of Alabama and twice a major contender for the White House, was the living epitome of the racist Democrat politics of the old south. True, changing realities would later force him to recant so successfully that he even managed to persuade a fair proportion of black voters to support him. But it was as a diehard white supremacist and segregationist, an eloquent foe of Washington and all its interventionist works, that he became a legend. That too was how he made his greatest mark upon American politics.

George Wallace Jr was born a farmer's son in arguably the most racist state in Dixie. He attended local schools until he was 18, when he enrolled at the University of Alabama Law School in 1937. Soon afterwards his father died, and George Jr was forced to pay his own way through college by working in restaurants, driving a taxi and by boxing professionally; he had twice won the state's Golden Gloves title at bantamweight in 1935 and 1936. Immediately after taking his law degree, he signed up for the air force. Although an attack of spinal meningitis cut short pilot training, he served with distinction as a flight engineer on a B-29 bomber in the Pacific and saw much action over Japan.

When he returned home in 1946, not only the law but politics beckoned. After serving as assistant state attorney general, he was elected to the Alabama legislature, where his skills as both orator and lawmaker were quickly in evidence. Wallace sponsored bills in education, crime and health care. Indeed, by the standards of the day he was a progressive – except in matters of race. Elected to the state judiciary in 1953, he soon became known as the "Fighting Judge" for his opposition to civil rights and federal efforts to stamp out discrimination against black voters. But the segregationist, it would transpire, would not be segregationist enough.

By 1958 Wallace had set his sights on the Governorship. He was defeated however by John Patterson in the Democratic party primary that year. Patterson had the support of the Ku Klux Klan, and Wallace even blamed the defeat on his opponent having "out-segged" him: never again, he vowed publicly, would he be "out-maneuvered" by any-

one. Four years later he swept the primary in effect the general election, given the Democrats overwhelming numerical superiority in the state), after a campaign in which one paper described him as "a one-man army at war with the federal government".

Wallace made his intentions plain in his inaugural address with the famous pledge of "Segregation now! Segregation tomorrow! Segregation forever!" The governor had proclaimed war on the burgeoning civil rights movement – or in his own words "tossed the gauntlet before the feet of tyranny." Five months later, on June 12, 1963, just as he had promised during the campaign, he personally blocked the door to two black students as they tried to enter the main campus of the University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa. It was a pivotal moment in America's civil rights struggle. President Kennedy placed the Alabama National Guard under federal authority and ordered it to escort the students into the building. Wallace was forced to step aside. The students duly enrolled, and that evening President Kennedy declared on national television that "race has no place in American life or law."

But the setback, and the subsequent civil rights acts pushed through by President Lyndon Johnson only galvanised Wallace. Having been defeated at state level, he would carry the fight to Washington directly. He installed his wife in the Montgomery state house, re-named the Democratic party and entered the 1968 Presidential race as leader of a newly-created American Independence Party. He was a compelling speaker who touched chords of resentment everywhere, and played upon Americans' deep-rooted suspicions of Big Government, at the very moment when Big Government was the doctrine of the day. Remarkably he won a place on the ballot in all 50 states. In the end, he won 9.9 million votes (13.5 per cent of the electorate) and carried five southern states with 46 electoral college votes.

It was the best showing by a third party candidate since Teddy Roosevelt and the Bull Moose election of 1912. Wallace had proved he could attract support outside the traditional south and arguably helped deny Hubert Humphrey the White House in the process. Most assuredly however, he set in motion the



Wallace addressing a rally at a shopping centre in Maryland on 15 May 1972, the day he was shot by a gunman. UPI

break-up of Franklin Roosevelt's historic Democratic coalition of northern workers and liberals and southern conservatives. The success of Wallace the populist, the articulator of the grievances of the little man, was not lost upon Richard Nixon and later Republican strategists. The old Confederacy gradually switched its allegiance to the party

Presidency again in 1972, this time as a Democrat. The campaign was prospering, with victories in several southern primaries and solid showings in the north, when on 15 May 1972 Arthur Bremer, a 21-year-old from Milwaukee, attempted to assassinate him during a rally at a shopping centre in Laurel, Maryland.

stances, his political stance began to change as well.

Not only did his injury, and the intense physical pain from which he often suffered, confer a new respectability upon Wallace: they also seemed to give him a new respect for black Americans. The difference was already visible in 1974, when he won the Governorship for a third term. The firebrand oratory had mellowed, the image he projected was for the first time clearly anti-racist. But it was not until 1982, when after a four-year "retirement" at the University of Alabama he again sought the governor's mansion in Montgomery, that the new Wallace was truly forged. He won a record fourth term and bolstered by wide support in the black community, 61 per cent of the vote.

The tone was set by his fourth inaugural in January 1983, 20 years after the day from "Segregation forever!" Wallace promised "justice and mercy" to all; a nation "that forgets its poor will lose its soul." He publicly apologised to the black community for his past racism and hostility to civil rights. The ironies fell over one another – never more so than when he crowned a black homecoming queen at the very university he had once vowed would remain all-white for ever. The "Fighting Judge" eventually appointed record numbers of blacks to state jobs.

Alabama would remain one of America's most backward states. But the rules of the old south applied no longer. The enfranchisement of blacks, and the steady population migration from the north to the "sunbelt" had changed the political face of its cities. Across the countryside, the old ways might live on, but produced too few votes to matter.

George Wallace to his credit understood this. "We thought it was in the best interests of all concerned, but we were mistaken," he said of segregationism in 1982. "The old south is gone." In 1986 he announced his retirement, and his final years were punctuated by illness, and ravaged by Parkinson's disease. But to the last Wallace's courage was indomitable. As for his legacy, Jimmy Carter, a fellow southern Governor who did become President put it best: "George Wallace's life helped define and reflect the political life of our region."

RUPERT CORNWELL

George Corley Wallace, lawyer and politician; born Clio, Alabama 25 April 1919; Governor of Alabama 1963-67, 1971-79, 1983-87; married 1943 Lurleen Burns (died 1968); one son, three daughters; 1971 Cornelius Ellis Snively (marriage dissolved 1978); 1981 Liza Taylor (marriage dissolved 1987); died Montgomery, Alabama, 13 September 1998.

Anthony Loveday

ANTHONY LOVEDAY made outstanding contributions to university librarianship in Britain and many Commonwealth countries, and was untiring in his services to the Standing Conference of National and University Libraries (Scoul) in Britain.

He was a stickler for doing things in the correct way. It was he who initiated moves to establish firmly and certainly Scoul's legal status by registering it as a charity and a company limited by guarantee. As long as he was present in his secretarial role, flagging committee members itching to get home at the end of a long day could not hope for remission by taking short cuts, or by deferring or fudging decisions. He could be sharp, especially with those he regarded as horses or time-wasters, but there was always present an underlying amiability and good humour which quickly overcame any brusqueness.

Loveday was born in Manchester, the youngest of three children, to Joseph Loveday, a bacteriologist. After leaving Ampleforth, he went up to Christ's College, Cambridge in 1943, but broke off his studies to take part in the war, entering the Royal Navy in 1944, and serving in Ceylon (now Sri Lanka). At the end of the war he returned to Cambridge and graduated in English in 1948. Following a brief spell at the National Central Library, London (later incorporated into the British Library), he attended the postgraduate School of Librarianship and Archives at University College London in 1949-50 where he obtained a Diploma in Librarianship.

It was Loveday's intention to go into special libraries – industrial or commercial libraries attached to large firms – and information bureaux but in 1950 he secured an assistant librarianship at University College London where he took charge of the book order department. He stayed in the university sector for the rest of his career. However, his interest in special libraries with its emphasis on the organisation, classification and retrieval of information left its mark. A first-class administrator, he was always looking for ways of improving library routines and processes.

For personal and professional reasons – he found the cautious British university library world of the 1950s restrictive – he decided to go overseas. In 1957 he took up a post in the University of Malaya at Singapore as an assistant librarian. He returned to England two years later and in 1960 became an assistant librarian in the University of London Library.

His appointment in 1962 as deputy librarian at Makerere University in Uganda began a decade of librarianship in Africa. Three years later he became the founding librarian of the University of Zambia and was responsible for planning its new library building. He was a prominent figure in moves to further co-operation among libraries in both Zambia and East Africa as a region. Loveday finally returned to England in 1972 to a job that might have been made for him. The generally higher profile of universities after their expansion in the 1960s had persuaded Scoul that it needed a full-time secretary and Loveday was appointed to this post in 1972. The Scoul office had traditionally been located in the library of the incumbent honorary secretary. When Loveday took up the appointment the office was in Cardiff but it was moved to London in 1973.

Over the next 17 years, by developing contacts with civil servants and vice-chancellors, Loveday was instrumental in moving Scoul from a rather inward-looking and exclusive body into an outgoing organisation concerned with voicing the views and requirements of university libraries in the context of the national provision of higher education. He also encouraged the full participation of the national libraries element in Scoul and opened up greater communication between Scoul and other library bodies such as the Library Association.

Through the International Federation of Library Associations (Ifla) he developed links with foreign university libraries. Moreover, perhaps to a greater extent than he knew, he helped to give Scoul the flexibility and resilience that it would need to absorb the financial stringencies and structural changes in higher education in the 1990s.

Anthony Loveday loved to be at the centre of things. He revelled in the social side of meetings and conferences. He enjoyed music, Mozart was his favourite composer, and he looked forward to his annual visits to Glyndebourne. Most of all, however, he loved ballet. For his Diploma in Librarianship he presented a bibliography of the Beaumont Press and he was delighted when Darcy Bussell came to live opposite him.

TONY BOWKES

Anthony Joseph Loveday, librarian; born Manchester 20 November 1925; Secretary, Standing Conference of National and University Libraries 1972-89; died London 28 August 1998.

Yang Shangkun



Yang (right) with Jiang Zemin in the Great Hall of the People, 1991. AFP

"PEOPLE SAY my hands are stained with blood," said Yang Shangkun plaintively at a private dinner a year after the army attack on Tiananmen Square. The table fell silent, one of the guests reported later. President Yang repeated his remark. Still no one dared break the stunned silence. The second most important man in China had uttered a terrible but unassimilable truth: the bloodshed around Tiananmen on 3-4 June 1989 still clung to his name like an indeible stain.

Rightly or wrongly, Yang Shangkun is the man most closely associated in the minds of ordinary Chinese with the decision to use lethal force against student protesters. His was the voice that, on the night of 19 May 1989, boozed from loudspeakers around Tiananmen Square and from television sets across China: "To restore normal order and stabilise the situation there is no choice but to move units of the People's Liberation Army to the vicinity of Peking... If this state of affairs is allowed to continue then our capital will not be a capital."

From that moment until the final assault nearly two weeks later, President Yang, acting in tandem with Prime Minister Li Peng, was the principal public spokesman for a harsh military response to China's biggest explosion of dissent since the 1949 revolution.

That Yang played a key role in the 4 June crackdown is beyond doubt. As Vice-Chairman of the Communist party's Central Military Commission, he took the lead in rallying wavering units in the military. "We can no longer retreat. We must launch an offensive," he told a crucial closed-door meeting of senior officers in Peking on 24 May. If anyone declined, he warned, they would be "punished according to military law". In China, that could mean a bullet in the back of the neck. Students and other protests were themselves never in any doubt about Yang's role. Tiananmen was filled with posters attacking him by name and caricatures portraying him as a bloodthirsty warlord.

If anything, though, President Yang's position at the centre of pop-

ular demonology overstates his own importance and underestimates what had long been the key to his political career: his friendship with and loyalty to Deng Xiaoping. It was Deng, not Yang, who decided to call in the army and again Deng who took the fatal decision to open fire when crowds of protesters blocked their way. Some even say Yang initially sided with the conciliatory policy of the then party secretary Zhao Ziyang. Whatever his reservations, though, he quickly and enthusiastically fell into line once his long-time associate and fellow Long March veteran Deng Xiaoping fixed a course of confrontation rather than conciliation.

The precise date of Yang's first contact with Deng is not known. According to perhaps tainted but not necessarily untrue reports from Taiwan, it was President Yang's brother Yang Yingqiong, who first introduced the young Deng Xiaoping to the Communist party in Shanghai in the 1920s. Like Deng, Yang was born in the inland province of Sichuan and joined the Communist cause in his late teens.

Rightly or wrongly, Yang Shangkun is the man most closely associated in the minds of ordinary Chinese with the decision to use lethal force against student protesters. His was the voice that, on the night of 19 May 1989, boozed from loudspeakers around Tiananmen Square and from television sets across China: "To restore normal order and stabilise the situation there is no choice but to move units of the People's Liberation Army to the vicinity of Peking... If this state of affairs is allowed to continue then our capital will not be a capital."

Sent to Shanghai to study in 1925, Yang joined the Communist youth league and left two years later to study in Moscow at the Sun Yat-sen University, a Soviet-sponsored training ground for China's revolution. Deng too studied there briefly but left before Yang arrived. After four years of study in Moscow, Yang returned to China in 1931, a member of the "Group of 28 Bolsheviks" dispatched by Stalin to reorganise China's struggling Communist cause.

What is notable about Yang's Moscow experience, however, is how quickly he forgot what Stalin's teachers had taught him and how nimblly he avoided the cloud that would later fall on many of his former classmates. Sent back to China to run the political department of the First Red Army in the Communist base area of Jiangxi, he came into contact for the first time with the home-grown revolutionary theories and military tactics of Mao Tse-tung. Mao's views, which stressed rural rather than urban revolution and guerrilla rather than conventional warfare, were vindicated when, in

1934, advancing Kuomintang troops forced the harried Red Army to leave its fortified encampments and embark on the epic Long March.

The Long March confronted Yang with what was probably the most important decision of his entire career. Should he support Mao's right to run the revolution as he saw fit or side with fellow Moscow-educated Bolsheviks? He chose the former. In January 1935, he took part in the critical Zunyi Conference, allying himself with Mao against the Comintern-appointed German advisor Otto Braun and the party's pro-Russian faction led by Bo Gu and Wang Ming. The details of Yang's role at the meeting – also attended by Deng – are not known but he somehow managed to convince Mao that he was a loyal ally and thus escape subsequent purges of the Moscow faction.

Like Deng Xiaoping, he devoted himself to political and ideological work rather than battle tactics. No great victories are linked to his name and he spent most of the war against Japan leading a drama troupe rather than soldiers. But his loyalty to Mao, like that to Deng

wounded by bomb splinters in his leg during a Kuomintang air-raid, Yang emerged from the Long March as a member of the party elite that would dominate Chinese politics for the next 50 years. Compared with Mao, Chou En-lai, Liu Shaoqi and others, however, he remained a relatively minor member of this elite – though recent propaganda has sought to glorify his role. Moreover, for a man so intimately associated with the military in subsequent years, he had surprisingly little combat experience.

His close links with the party apparatus and intimate knowledge of its party's secrets, however, were later to prove his undoing. By the mid-Sixties Mao had grown bitterly distrustful of the party's institutionalised bureaucracy and turned on his former friends and battle comrades with vengeful fury.

The result was the Cultural Revolution. Yang was one of its first victims. Arrested in July 1966, he was accused of plotting "underground" activities, condemned as a "black

general" and subjected to a harrowing "struggle session" before hundreds of thousands of Red Guards. Accusations ranged from spying for both the Russians and the Americans, for whom he supposedly tapped Mao's phone lines. Jailed for longer than any other Long March commander, he was held for 12 years until 1978, when Deng had him rehabilitated and sent to help repair the wreckage of the Cultural Revolution in the southern province of Guangdong.

When Deng needed a safe pair of hands to help him run the military in 1981, he called Yang back to Peking and made him Secretary General of the all-important Central Military Commission. Having won Deng's favour and trust, he continued his ascent, winning a politburo post and further promotion within the military commission the following year and the title of state president in 1986. Apparently a man of firm convictions of his own beyond loyalty and self-preservation, he promoted Deng's notions of economic reform and helped clear the way for a radical reorganisation and streamlining of the military.

Despite his growing importance as Deng's right-hand man, however, he failed to make much of an impression on ordinary Chinese. Many, particularly intellectuals mocked his foppish dress, his jovial, often coarse manner, and reputation as an ageing playboy. For many he was a buffoon, a powerful one but hardly a man of weight. Then, in June 1989, the joking stopped.

Oversight, Yang Shangkun became perhaps the most hated man in China. He had performed the ultimate act of loyalty – when Deng said open fire he obeyed.

ANDREW HIGGINS

Yang Shangkun, revolutionary and politician; born Shuangjiang, Tongnan County, Sichuan Province, China 1907; Member, Communist Party China 1925-30; Member, Central Committee 1956-66; President of the People's Republic of China 1983-93; married 1935 Li Bozhao (died 1985); died 14 September 1998.

Anthony
Loveday

Leonid Kinskey

ONE OF Hollywood's most distinctive character actors, often known as "The Mad Russian", Leonid Kinskey was a lanky, shock-haired eccentric who specialised in comic continents with fractured English and manic enthusiasm. Among his most memorable portrayals were the barman who effusively kisses Humphrey Bogart in *Casablanca*; the gigolo who takes Betty Grable on the town in *Down Argentine Way* and one of the unworldly professors in *Sail of Fire*. Occasionally he would be cast in less genial roles, and was chillingly effective as the oily informer in *Algiers* and a swelling coward in *So Ends Our Night*.

Though his countrymen often assumed that he was American ("When I played Russians in the movies they made me so exaggerated no real Russian would believe me"), Kinskey was actually born in St Petersburg in 1903. Sent out of Russia by his mother at 17 - "I belonged to a group of people that was not wanted after the Revolution" - he toured South America as a mime with the acclaimed Firebird Theatre, which specialised in bringing famous paintings to life through mime and dance.

When the company stopped in New York, Kinskey found himself stranded with no money or knowledge of English. He worked as a waiter in Manhattan then managed to get a role in a silent film, *The Great Deception* (1926), starring Alleen Pringle and Ben Lyon, but when most of his part was cut out he found work in Chicago running a theatre-restaurant with a Russian theme. After the stock market crash caused the restaurant to close, Al Lyon hired Kinskey to appear in the touring version of his show *Wonder Bar*.

While it was playing in Hollywood, Kinskey was spotted by the director Ernst Lubitsch, who signed him for a brief cameo as a Russian peasant in the exquisite comedy *Trouble in Paradise* (1932). It was an exaggerated portrayal of an agitated radical who repeatedly exclaims "Phooey" to socialite Kay Francis, who is reassured by her lover Herbert Marshall that "his phooey is less than his bite", and it set the pattern for many of his later roles caricaturing foreigners such as his delightfully eccentric composer in *On Your Toes* (1939).

His own favourite role was in the Bing Crosby musical *Rhythm on the Range* (1936) in which Kinskey bizarrely took part in introducing the song standard, "I'm An Old Cowhand". Other films in which he featured include *Duck Soup* (1933), *We Live Again* (1934), another serious role as a murder victim, *Les Misérables* (1935), *The Merry Widow* (1935), *100 Men and a Girl* (1937), *The Great Waltz* (1938), *Firing with Fire* (1938), in which he and comic Joe E. Brown duetted on "Sweet Adeline", *That Night in Rio* (1941) and *Castile Help Singing* (1944), in which he was one of



Kinskey with Betty Grable in *Down Argentine Way*, 1940

a pair of bumbling confidence tricksters attempting to swindle Deanna Durbin.

Kinskey was one of the last surviving members of the cast of the enduring classic *Casablanca* (1942). He claimed that Bogart got him the role of Sacha the bartender after the original actor Leonid Ostryanov was fired for lacking the requisite humour. "We used to

Sacha is so moved by Bogart's arranging a passport for a young couple desperate to leave that he kisses Bogart on both cheeks as he exclaims, "Boss, you did a wonderful thing" to which Bogart responds, "Get away from me!"

Kinskey appeared in over 70 films. He supplemented his income by writing articles and short stories for Russian pub-

Kinskey married his wife Iphigenia Castiglioni four times. It started in Mexico City, and then over 20 years we celebrated every five years by taking a new marriage licence in a different county'

drink together; Bogart, Ralph Bellamy and myself at Mischa Auer's house at least three times a week," said Kinskey. "We were all good drinkers. Ralph Bellamy was a good-looking guy. We thought he was the one who was going to be a star. And I said to myself about Bogart, 'He's short, he speaks with a lisp. And he's not a good-looking guy so what chance does he have?' When Bogart asked me to be in *Casablanca*, I knew I was replacing an actor who had been thought too heavy, speechy, and they wanted something very light."

In a memorable scene Kinskey as

lications. During the Second World War he worked with the Soviets in choosing Hollywood movies for showing in the USSR. A television show he did in 1948 called *The Spotlight Club* is allegedly the first situation comedy ever on television.

Kinskey was also a regular on Jackie Cooper's television series *The People's Choice* in the Fifties, and made appearances on the shows of Ann Sothern, Spike Jones and others, but he refused to do commercials. A man of strong principles, he was featured in the pilot of

Hogon's Heroes, a comedy series about the Second World War, but declined to sign for the series, stating, "The premise was to me both false and offensive. Nazis were seldom dumb and never funny."

Kinskey married his late wife Iphigenia Castiglioni four times. "It started in Mexico City," said Kinskey, "and then over 20 years of our happy marriage we celebrated every five years by taking a new marriage licence in a different country". Castiglioni, a Viennese beauty who died in 1983, was also in movies - she played Empress Eugenie in both *The Story of Louis Pasteur* (1936) and *Martine* (1937) and was the Bird Woman in Hitchcock's *Rear Window* (1954).

When movie roles dried up (he last

was in *Glory*, 1956), Kinskey wrote and directed industrial films for major corporations. "To dramatise a machine or product requires a great deal more ingenuity to keep it going than a well-written scene played by able actors," he stated. The man whom columnist Lionel Parsons once called "the maddest Russian on land or sea" also frequently travelled to Palm Springs to visit old friends from Hollywood's Russian colony.

TOM VALLANCE

Leonid Kinskey, actor: born St Petersburg, Russia 18 April 1903; married three times, first Iphigenia Castiglioni (died 1983), third Tina York; died Fountain Hills, Arizona 8 September 1998.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS

DEATHS

JENKINS: The Rev Canon David M., of Ashby de la Zouch (formerly of Llanrwst Major), a loving husband, father and grandfather, died 10 September 1998. A Requiem Service will be held at St Hilda's Church, Ashby de la Zouch, on Monday 21 September at 11.15am. The funeral service will be held at St Illtyd's Church, Llanrwst Major on Tuesday 22 September at 2.30pm, followed by burial of ashes in the churchyard. Donations in lieu of flowers, if so desired, for the Rectorial Benefice of Llanrwst Major and any enquiries may be made to J. P. Springthorpe & Co, Funeral Directors, Castle & George, South Street, Llanrwst, LL26 8ZD. Tel: 01743 817310.

ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS

The Duke of York presents the Professional Cricketers' Association Players of the Year Awards at the Lord's Indoor Cricket School, St John's Wood, London NW8.

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, 11am.

Announcements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS (Births, Adoptions, Marriages, Deaths, Memorial services, Wedding anniversaries, In memoriam) are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT extra).

BIRTHDAYS

Prince Henry of Wales, 14; The Rev Professor Peter Ackroyd, Emeritus Professor of Old Testament Studies, London University, 81; Mr Richard Arnell, composer, conductor and film maker, 81; Mr Charles Bone, painter and lecturer, 72; Professor John Russell Brown, professor of theatre, 75; General Eva Burrows, Salvation Army, 88; Mr Jeffrey Cooper, actor, 76; Mr Thomas Duggin, diplomat, 51; Lord Eden of Winton, former government minister, 73; Professor Brian Fender, chief executive, Higher Education Funding Council for England, 64; Mr Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos, conductor, 65; Dr Richard Gordon, novelist, 77; Lord Harris of Peckham, company chairman, 56; Mr David Lepper MP, 53; Mr William Marsden, ambassador to Argentina, 52; Mr Clive Morrison, actor, 53; Mr Mark Moody-Stuart, chairman, the Shell Transport and Trading Co, 58; Miss Jessye Norman, soprano, 53; Viscount Norwich, architectural writer, 66; Mr Abdul Qadir, Pakistan cricketer, 43; Mr Glen Renfrew, former chief executive of Reuters, 70; Sir Clive Rose, former diplomat, 77; Sir Konrad Schiemann, a Lord Justice of Appeal, 61; Lady Soames (Mary Soames), writer, daughter of Sir Winston Churchill, 76; Mr Oliver Stone, film director, 52; Sir Peter Studd, former Lord Mayor of London, 82; Mr Graham Taylor, manager, Wolverhampton Wanderers FC, 54; Mr James Tidmarsh, Lord-Lieutenant for Bristol, 66; Sir Richard Way, former university principal, 84; Professor Alan

ANNIVERSARIES

Births: Trajan, Roman emperor, 53; Albrecht Wenzel Ensebius von Wallenstein, soldier and statesman, 1583; Titus Oates, impostor and fabricator of the "Popish Plot", 1648; Sophia Dorothea, Electress of Hanover, 1666; Baron Friedrich Wilhelm Ludolf Gerhard Baron von Steuben, Prussian general, 1730; John Campbell, first Baron Campbell, Lord Chancellor, 1778; Sir Francis Seymour Haden, surgeon and etcher, 1818; José de la Cruz Portillo Diaz, Mexican leader, 1830; William Howard Taft, 27th US President, 1857; Bruno Walter (Schlesinger), conductor, 1876; Hans Arp, painter, engraver, sculptor and poet, 1887; Robert Charles Benchley, humorist, 1887; Agatha Mary Clarissa Christie, detective story writer, 1890; Frank Martin, composer, 1890; Jean Renoir, film director, 1894; Tom Conway (Thomas Charles Sanders), actor, 1904; Margaret Mary Lockwood, actress, 1916.

Deaths: Sir Thomas Overbury, poet, poisoned while in the Tower of London, 1613; Richard Boyle, first Earl of Cork, 1643; Sidney, first Earl of Godolphin, statesman, 1712; William Huskisson, statesman, run down by the locomotive Rocket 1830; Arthur Henry Hallam, historian, 1833; Isambard Kingdom Brunel, engineer, 1859; John Hanning Speke, explorer, shot by accident 1864; John Frederick Lewis, painter, 1876; William Seward

St Nicetas the Goth and St Nicomedes.

LECTURES

National Gallery: Mari Griffith, "Picturing Women (II), The Mistress and the Wife: Madame de Pompadour and Queen Charlotte", 1pm. Victoria and Albert Museum: Sarah Bowles, "Furniture: Renaissance to 1700", 2pm. Tate Gallery: Stuart Currie, "Three Colours Red: emotion in Tudor and Stuart painting", 1pm. British Museum: Delia Pemberton, "Images of the Feminine in Buddhism", 11.30am. National Portrait Gallery: John Cooper, "Remember Colonial Burnaby", 1.10pm. The Wallace Collection, London W1: Suzanne Higgott, "Majolica in the Wallace Collection", 1pm.

DINNERS

Board of Deputies of British Jews. The annual President's Dinner of the Board of Deputies of British Jews was held yesterday evening at Lincoln's Inn, London WC2. The Home Secretary, Mr Jack Straw MP, was the guest of honour. He was received by Mr Eldred Tabachnick QC, President of the Board. The Home Secretary presented Sir Sigmund Sternberg with the Community Service Medal for his outstanding service to interfaith work. Mr Larry Adler gave a musical presentation. Among those present were Mr Michael Howard QC, MP Shadow Foreign Secretary, Lord Clinton-Davis and Mr Dror Zeiger, Ambassador of Israel.

Today is the Feast Day of St Achard or Archardus, St Catherine of Genoa, St Mirin,

HISTORICAL NOTES

BENNETT MAXWELL

The Emperor of the Sahara



Jean Raspail claimed the Les Minguiers islands for the "Kingdom of Patagonia"

THE ATTEMPT by a Frenchman to claim the Les Minguiers islands as part of the "Kingdom of Patagonia" is by no means the first effort of its kind. Perhaps the most spectacular occurred at the turn of the century, when the self-styled "Emperor of the Sahara" tried to establish an African state.

In June 1903 a French sugar millionaire, one Jacques Lebaudy, a dapper little man with a sharp nose and a shrill high-pitched voice who was said to have a personal fortune of some £3m, recruited a dozen Breton sailors and landed them on the coast of Spanish Morocco, commanding them to go forth and establish an empire. Lebaudy then informed the French authorities that he was henceforth to be addressed as Jacques I, Nafna-al-Den, Emperor of the Sahara, Commander of the Faithful, King of Tarifa, Duke of Arieuf and Prince of Chal-Huin. However, the sailors were soon captured by Arab traders, who attempted to ransom them. But Lebaudy refused to pay up. So the French sent a cruiser which shelled the coast, and the sailors escaped in the confusion.

The French government then issued a warrant for Lebaudy's arrest, and he travelled to The Hague, where he tried to bring his case before the International Court. Having failed, he moved to London and set up his "court" in the Savoy Hotel, where he was besieged by journalists and press photographers, by a host of actors, actresses, retired army and naval officers, waiters and labourers, all seeking employment, and by 300 or 400 tradesmen, including gunsmiths, flag merchants, a patent water filter firm, a weatherproof watch company and a corned-beef contractor.

Lebaudy commissioned "an enterprising young journalist" to edit his national newspaper, *Le Sahara*, which would report news of the court and promulgate the "Emperor's" laws and imperial decrees, he had banknotes printed in pale yellow, mauve and black, and he designed an imperial flag, the centre of which was adorned with three golden bees on a field of purple, beneath a crown surmounted by a cross supported by arches of gold set with pearls.

He enlisted a ship's carpenter living in Fulham as Deputy Commander of the Saharan Navy on a promised salary of £20 a month plus four shillings and sixpence for expenses, and appointed a retired

Bennett Maxwell is writing the biography of Col George Edward Gouraud

that the philosopher (Socrates) knew better than the gods. These were views thoroughly subversive of the state religion. In the year 399 BC Athens could, in good conscience, have found Socrates guilty as charged of impiety and of corrupting youth.

This seems to me a much more convincing account than Stone's but, never mind, Stone's thesis serves his purpose. He doesn't like Socrates one bit and with good reason, for the Socrates he depicts is a real pain. Only he knew best, which was that even he didn't know. He claimed that the Oracle had named him wisest man in the city (the world) and he went around telling everybody, rubbing his own city, rubbing democracy, rubbing the people, rubbing everything.

It is a work of what might be called "investigative scholarship". It applies to fifth-century Athens the technique which Stone practised in 20th-century Washington with his famous *Newsletter*.

He was not the kind

of reporter who made assignations with Deep Throats,

rather who pored over the small print of official publications looking for sinister contradictions or traces of conspiracy.

The success of his *Newsletter*

had largely to do with the

sense it gave its readers of hav-

ing a private line to the inside

dope. Now Stone offers us the

line on Periclean Athens al-

though, as Professor M.F.

Burneau has pointed out,

discrepancies between Plato and

Xenophon cannot be properly

treated in the same way as

discrepancies between the Pen-

tagon and State Department.

That is the trouble with Stone

but he was tried and

convicted for what he said and

thought. It was a political trial.

He was an enemy of democra-

cacy. Had he entered a defence of

the right of free speech he would

probably have been acquitted.

But he did not believe in free

speech, nor in self-government.

"Socrates needed the hemlock,

as Jesus needed the Crucifixion,

to fulfil a mission. The mis-

tion left strain forever on

democracy. That remains

Athen's tragic crime."

On another interpretation

of the man and his trial, the con-

demnation of Socrates can be

justified. Socrates was a reli-

gious heretic, not a political sub-

versive. He claimed, in effect,

- until soon discovering a certain confusion, as in the cellar's a bit muddled". And so vendor it remains.

Even so, that fine American novelist Hortense Calisher wrote in *The American Scholar* of delight in finding one of her pseudonymous novels "vended" in the "decent atmosphere" of New York's Mysterious Bookshop.

WORDS

Publish and be blessed

Very long and definitely uncool, *The Holy Bible* had a serious image problem until a young publisher chopped it all up. By Kevin Jackson

In the beginning was the Word. Then Gutenberg invented printing, and the Word became a bestseller; not to say the bestseller: Some four billion copies of *The Holy Bible* were produced between 1800 and 1975 alone, which puts the print run for the sacred texts of Christendom comfortably ahead of their nearest rival, the sacred text of a rather different faith – the Little Red Book of quotations from Chairman Mao Zedong. Mao's mini-unit shifted a trifling 900 million units.

To be sure, "bestseller" is not an altogether accurate term for books which were generally given away, and a pedant might point out that the most widely distributed title of all time is the *Sears Roebuck Catalogue* (circa 7 billion copies). When it comes to publishing, Mammom has thrashed both God and Mao.

Still, *The Bible* clearly has legs as a chart-topper; so it is quite surprising that it has taken so long for a publisher to wonder whether there might not be some innovative way of presenting it to the book-buying public, Christian or otherwise. Some way, that is, which bypasses the two most obvious obstacles that stand between the average late-20th-century reader and *The Bible*: (a) it is dauntingly long, and (b) if you read it on the bus, people will assume you are a fundamentalist or a nutter.

Solution to (a): chop it into its constituent books, most of which can be browsed in an hour or two. Solution to (b): strip away every last lingering intimation of happy-clappy, socks-and-sandals, acoustic-guitar-and-tambourine gaucheness; make it cool (but serious), sober (but chic).

You'd think one of the big publishing houses would have done it years ago. But they didn't, which left an enticing void in the market for an enterprising small publisher. That publisher is Canongate, an independent house based on Edinburgh's Royal Mile and run, for the past four years, by the eminently enterprising Jamie Byng. Next week sees the publication of the first 12 Pocket Canons: neat, portable, suave slices from the King James version.

"It started in December 1996," Byng explains, "with a phone call from a friend who has nothing to do with publishing, and had been looking around bookshops for one of the books of the Bible, and noticed that no general trade publisher seemed

ever to have done them as individual books, and he was curious. Was there any reason why not? Was it too expensive? What did I think of it as an idea? And I said: 'I think it's a great idea...'" And I immediately thought, what we have to do is commission introductions, get interesting writers of all kinds to offer ways into those particular books."

Byng duly contacted a dozen appropriate writers – mostly non-believers – and brought in a hot young designer, Angus Hyland. From next week, you will be able to walk into a bookshop, hand over a quid and receive an elegant black-jacketed 144x108mm edition of *Genesis* introduced by the biologist Steven Rose, or *Revelations* (Will Self), or *Matthew* (AN Wilson), *Mark* (Nick Cave), *Luke* (Richard Holloway, Bishop of Edinburgh), *John* (Blake Morrison), *Job* (Louis de Bernières), *Ecclesiastes* (Doris Lessing)...

The response has already been far greater than even Byng anticipated.

The Sunday Times in Scotland has

bought 100,000 copies of *Job* to give away; the Spanish newspaper *El País* ran two full pages about the venture, and printed a translation of Nick Cave's essay on its review front; WH Smith and other chains are gearing up for a major pre-Christmas sales campaign, and Byng has sold the rights to the series to Germany, Spain, Greece, Italy, Australia and the United States, though some of the introductions in those countries will be written by local authors.

It's by far the biggest enterprise Canongate have ever taken on, and only a few years ago it would have been unthinkable. Founded in 1973, the company had specialised mainly in books on Scottish themes. It was well-respected, and achieved a couple of coups – Alasdair Gray's *Landmark*, Charles Palliser's *The Quincunx* – but had a rough time of it financially, and went into receivership in 1994. A management buy-out led to Byng's appointment as director. This was exceptionally rapid promotion: two years earlier, a graduate in English from Edinburgh University, Byng had been an unpaid dogsbody helping with photocopying and mail-shots.

But he'd already shown a flair for marketing: it was a publicity stunt which won him a job at Canongate in the first place. "My wife and I were running a club called Chocolate City, and we'd advertise it by buying hundreds of mini-munchies from

the Cash and Carry, then sit in the pub unwrapping them and re-wrapping them with our filer. I sent one of these off to Stephanie Scott Murray, who was running Canongate at the time, and she was particularly hungry that morning, so she called me in and we hit it off."

Before long, Byng had proved

that he knew about books as well as advertising. He could talk persuasively to literary editors, and began to bring titles into the company. Put in charge of the ailing concern, he turned it around. Since October 1994, when Byng took over, the company has quadrupled its turnover, which this year is forecast at around £2 million. More dramatically, Byng has transformed it into a house with an international profile, courted at the Frankfurt Book Fair, recognised from New York to Tokyo. For one of the forthcoming titles on the Autumn list, *Dreamer*, by the noted black novelist and academic Charles Johnson, Byng out-bid the likes of Faber and Picador.

Financial incentives aside, one of

the reasons Johnson opted to be published by Canongate is that he looked

at the company's back list and saw

that it had reprinted books by the

likes of Langston Hughes, Chester Himes, Gil Scott-Heron, Iceberg Slim and other black American auth-

ors – all published under one of the

two subsidiary imprints Byng intro-

duced. Payback: Byng had originally

been inspired by these writers at

university. "I did my dissertation on

'The Development of the Black Oral

Tradition and the Hip Hop Lyric'."

Byng's second innovation came in

1996, when he recruited Kevin

Williamson, the co-editor of the un-

derground magazine *Rebel Inc*

(which had published early work by

Irvine Welsh) to set up a *Rebel Inc*

imprint to encourage new fiction and

reprint "counter-cultural classics" –

Richard Brautigan, Nelson Algren,

Alexander Trocchi, Knut Hamsun et al.

Byng's other great publishing

coup of 1998 – a limited edition of

Snowblind, Robert Sabat's *Rebel Inc*

classic about the cocaine trade,

designed by Damien Hirst.

Copies aren't ready yet, but Byng

gleefully shows me some of the

component parts: a cover made of

refined glass mirror; stainless steel

mock-American Express cards,

which will be fixed to a ribbon and

used as a bookmark; the rolled immi-

dred dollar bills that will be inserted

into a die-cut hole in each text.

They haven't even advertised it yet,

but the orders are rolling in. If you

fancy one, will set you back the

price of 1,000 Pocket Canons.

Projects like the *Hirst Snow-*

blind, Byng says, are the reason he

loves Canongate and can never

imagine leaving it for one of the big

publishing houses, no matter the in-



Jamie Byng of Canongate and mastermind behind the hip re-launch of "The Holy Bible"

Colin McPherson

They haven't even advertised it yet, but the orders are rolling in. If you fancy one, will set you back the price of 1,000 Pocket Canons. Projects like the *Hirst Snow-blind*, Byng says, are the reason he loves Canongate and can never imagine leaving it for one of the big publishing houses, no matter the in-

ducements. "I think editors at big

publishing houses would have a

really hard time making something

like that happen, they just couldn't

push it through because it's too off-

the-wall and potentially too contro-

versial, but that's not a problem for

us. It's a real privilege to have that

much freedom."

Byng's now busy commissioning

the second set of Pocket Canons, due

out for Easter 1999: "introducers" in-

clude Ruth Rendell on *Romans*,

Alasdair Gray on *Jonah*, Marina

Warner on *Tobit*... and possibly A.N.

Other rock star ("please don't pub-

lish his name") on *Psalm*s. The se-

ries has called down the ire of one

fundamentalist, who has tried, un-
successfully, to have Canongate
prosecuted for blasphemy, but Byng
suspects that, unlike some of the
Rebel Inc projects, there will be lit-
tle condemnation or censure. "I
imagine most Christians will wel-
come the series."

To which sentiments, amen.

REVELATIONS

BILLY BRAGG, ACTON, 1981

The army made a man of me



It is our contradictions which make us interesting.
Rock'n'roll rebel without a regiment, Billy Bragg

until I could do enough chin-ups to make the grade. It was a laugh. So it was not until I'd got to Catterick in Yorkshire that I realised I'd made a cock-up. It was another planet. I don't think I've ever been that far north. I felt very culturally isolated; when Bob Marley died, I asked the corporal to stay up and watch the tribute on TV. His death was really tragic but no one else gave a hoot. What's more, having shown an affinity to black culture, I was segregated.

After the first couple of days, some of the lads decided they wanted out and left. The

soldier explained how at the end of the 90s, we could sign ourselves out, but to give the army a proper try. It made perfect sense to me. I needed something to push against and this was exactly what I asked for – it was sink or swim.

There was so much pent-up sexuality with all these young guys around that a Nolans album in the NAAFI shop took on deeply significant proportions. While supposedly looking

at the Marmite, my daily visit was not complete without cop-

ing a butchers at the cover,

particularly Bernadette. (Re-

cently, while on holiday at Wey-

mouth, I saw the Nolans were

on the pier with Cannon and Ball; it all came back to me.)

Eventually, the officers brought up the subject of "clearing your custard" and for the last month of the course, each Sunday lunch time we could buy a porno mag. We were advised:

"don't all buy the same one, you idiots, with four guys together in a room they could last the week!" In close proximity to other people, you learn some important things. Until I was in the Boy Scouts, I thought I was the only person in the entire world who masturbated!

I had a bit of a lip on me, so

surprise, surprise, my bootlaces and belt were taken off me and I was marched down the block house a couple of times.

I remember being in the classroom when they told us what to do on the battlefield if there was a nuclear explosion. For radiation fall-out, we were told to dig a shallow trench and put 14 inches of earth over the top of us. So I piped up: "Is that so the pioneer corps can just come along and put a headstone down?" I thought it was a perfectly rational point!

Although most people wouldn't think of me as a natural for the British Army, I was almost the best recruit! But I decided it was not for me and bought myself out. Walking out of Catterick, I felt sorted. I'd had to live on my wits and come out on top. I wouldn't recommend it to anybody as a sabbatical but it did focus me; where else did I get the

courage to get up on stage and perform on my own?

I felt I finally had something to measure myself against my dad. He enjoyed the armed forces and was good at it and so was I. Fathers are difficult creatures and when they're not around, it's even harder. But I could now say: "Look what I've done, Dad. I'm not a total time-waster." So my time in the army made me feel closer to him. For a long time, I didn't think about or talk about him to anyone, but now I find myself on a rainy day in Dorset at Bodmin Tank Museum with my little boy showing him the model his grandfather drove and the Chieftain I was training to drive.

I never realised how complex I was until my biographer made me think about myself. However, it is our contradictions which make us interesting. I know being in the army is not politically correct, but life is not PC, and if you want to defeat your enemy, first learn their songs. Recently, I walked past the Army Recruiting Centre in Acton, but it has been knocked down to make way for a supermarket. Is that progress?

Billy Bragg's official biography, "Still Suitable for Miners" written by Andrew Collins, is published by Virgin, priced £12.99. His latest album, "Mermaid Avenue", is on East West records and he tours from 20 October until 14 November.

INTERVIEW BY ANDREW G MARSHALL

Kids, they can cost a lot to keep but very little to protect. With Virgin Direct, around £10 a month will give you £50,000 cover. Call us today and we'll help sort it out.

life cover
0345 94 94 94
personal financial service

Virgin Direct Personal Financial Service Ltd is regulated by the Personal Investment Authority. For your security, all calls to Virgin Direct are recorded and randomly monitored. * Example: Male + non-smoker, age 30 next birthday, 15-year period of cover, costs £5.22 per month.

John McPhee

'Was strange, our sweat mixed'

A courageous new novel breaks taboos to tell the secret story of a Caribbean sexual awakening. By Marina Salandy-Brown

Ruderies! Wicked! Is that what you're sending out to people?" was the embarrassed response of Onyia Kempadoo's nine-year-old son to the bits he saw of *Buxton Spice*, the compelling debut novel from a Caribbean woman writer.

It is a story of sexual awakening, in which the 12-year-old narrator, Lula, passes from happy, flat-chested, gangly girl to bra-wearing, sexually aroused teenager. The setting for what one publisher's rejection slip dubbed "too hot to handle" is a fictional village, Tamarind Grove, on the coast of Guyana. Lula and her friends come of age against the backdrop of the political oppression and violence of the Seventies.

When I was a child growing up in Trinidad, my two girl cousins and I would spy on our younger cousins playing doctor and nurse. We were shocked by what five-year-olds got up to. Nobody ever got to know about our own pre-pubescent half-innocent adventures between white cotton sheets during compulsory, grandmother-induced, "afternoon rests", from which we would emerge sweaty and nervy. We never spoke, even to each other, about them. Then Onyia Kempadoo gives away all our secrets.

"There was a sound of movement from the other bed and I quickly stuck my head out from under the sheet. Judy was on top of Sammy already! We hadn't even kissed yet. I pulled my head back in, rolling on to Rachel, and wriggled up slightly until my bungee was in the right place and the battery was held between our two bones. We kissed now, hurriedly, just pushing our lips together and keeping them there for a second. When I lifted my head and licked around my lips, she did too. Was strange, our sweat had mixed, wet and salty."

It doesn't often happen to me, nor to many people, I suspect, that I come across somebody else's writing which reveals entire parts of my personal history - from the rude bits to the bum-sliding along polished floors till my cheeks burn, to intense conversations with the trees (not a *Buxton Spice* mango tree though, they don't grow in Trinidad). It is something of a shock. And this novel will shake up other people too, but for quite different reasons. She's a brave and talented woman who takes on the taboo subjects of sex, race, politics and violence in the Caribbean.

You have to have a lot of confidence to write the way Onyia Kempadoo does, and you'd have to be wanting to ruffle a few people, too. But she doesn't look like a trouble-maker. She's warm, intelligent, funny, and has a contagious laugh. Dark brown eyes look right at you, and tell you how it is. There is no artifice in her, and no malice. And she doesn't look the sort to

do things for effect or necessarily to shock.

Did she do it because sex sells? "I knew sex sells, but not pre-sex, and I didn't set out to write for publication. The novel grew out of notes on the most powerful recollections of my childhood." She was aware of the predominance of the sexual memories, and decided to let the theme emerge, trying to make it as real and as honest as she could. "The challenge for me was to not put an adult perspective on it."

It is honest all right, but there's the rub: Caribbean people just don't talk about these things. They tend to stop at double entendre and innuendo. "There is a lot of sex going on though," she says. "We know because of the number of single parents and teenage pregnancies. But there is a lot of duplicity, because of the conflict between religious values and the actual lifestyle that has emerged from the mixture of our European, African and Indian inheritance." She and I discuss for a little gossip about single women we know, who have active sex lives while living with their parents, without either party ever talking about it. They never spend the night out, either.

Kempadoo and her seven siblings were brought up differently. "We discussed everything. We were taught to go our own way, not to allow ourselves to be confined by race, politics or religion."

She was born in England in 1966, and her parents returned to Guyana when she was four. Her Indian father, who worked on rural development for the United Nations, refused to stay in the ruined race politics of Guyana. In the novel, Kempadoo describes the occasion when their house was searched, and her mother taken away by soldiers for not returning some foreign currency. Now, she's fallen out with her widowed father, because he's stopped practising what he preaches. She thinks he is not above sexism, that his ego is as big as any Caribbean man's. "It's sad that all that is still there in a man who had a bigger vision." Ms Kempadoo may appear to be young and fun-loving, but she takes no hostages.

"My mother put his principles into practice. I had a lot of respect for her." She taught the children at home, using books from a vast library, with shelves marked, Caribbean Arts, Philosophy etc. For their writing lessons, she made them go outdoors for long periods, then come back in and write about what they'd observed. The young Kempadoo observed well: in *Buxton Spice*, she inhabits scenes with a powerful command of detail.

She shifts slightly on the leather sofa, but I don't flatter her by saying she really can write, that she has enviable descriptive powers and that she has triumphed in interweaving standard English and local



Onyia Kempadoo, on the right, the author of 'Buxton Spice' and an outspoken lady with strong views, with Marina Salandy-Brown

Andrew Buurman

dialect, which is broken English and the leftovers of some French-style constructions.

She is delighted to hear that the lingo falls off her pen as easily as it did for the deceased Trinidadian writer, Sam Selvon, "the most underrated of writers - he used the right spelling of the word, but its positioning in the sentence is what gives you the lift." Her sing-song

is the thinking her parents encouraged. It's unadulterated, relaxed, and devoid of the laboured elegance of Arundhati Roy. Comparisons between the two don't go beyond the fact that she is a new woman's voice from a former colony, and that they share the same agent.

Kempadoo is eager to stick to the principle of not being pigeon-holed: "What do they mean when they ask me if I am a Caribbean writer? For me, writing is about trying to voice what hasn't been said, and to write about everyday matters in a way that anyone can relate to, anywhere in the world." We agree that she is a Caribbean writer to the extent that she lives there (just moved from Tobago to Grenada), and with her first novel has filled a gap in the body of work emerging from the region since the Fifties. "Writers don't often deal with simple everyday matters, and the joys of life. We get a lot of the woes of life under, or after, colonial rule. But ordinary, contemporary life is not reflected there. And that was what I was trying to do."

Political correctness also gets short shrift from Ms Kempadoo. When sending out the manuscript to publishers, she added a note that the racial language might be offensive. "Both black and white may not like it, but part of the reason I live in the Caribbean is because

of people's spontaneity, and the natural way in which they deal with matters such as race. In the Caribbean, I'm a douglou (mixure of African and Indian), or a coocie (Indian), or I am *nation* - a mix-up."

Her mother's racial mix of European, African and native blood is similar to mine, and it shows in her features. She gets serious again. "I don't like how, in Britain, you have to identify yourself with this or that, and

being put into a category is new to me. I don't want to conform to those, or take part in them, because some of them I don't agree with, and because it creates boundaries."

Onyia Kempadoo says she is not at all special, that you must put your mind to what you want to achieve, and believe in it. The faith of the ignorant together with the resourcefulness of the average Caribbean woman goes a long way, but not

even the most intrepid would take on the world's publishing industry. Whoever heard of an unconnected young woman, in a far off land, forcing six agents into vying to handle her, and managing to get four top publishers into an expensive auction for her first novel? She appointed her agent on the phone and by fax, and flew to London to interview the publishers. Now *Buxton Spice* will be published in Spain, Holland and Italy. The puritanical Americans are waiting to see how what one of those publishing houses dubbed "unsuitable material" does in Europe before signing on the dotted line.

Kempadoo is sanguine. Whatever happens, she's put aside her profession of textile designing to get on with her second, scorchingly honest, tale of life in the Caribbean. I personally, can hardly wait to be shaken up again.

I don't like how, in Britain, you have to be either this or that - being put into a category is all new to me

accent is somewhere between Guyana and Trinidad, and I could hear myself sounding more and more like her. We both slip into a bit of lingo occasionally. And that's how *Buxton Spice* is: natural, like children's interest in sex.

She laughs her big laugh, and her mass of curly hair bobs around when I tell her about the fatigues among British critics with the dream world of magical realism. She finds writing like that boring to do, although she admires it. Her style is as free

about it: post-fordism, post-feminism, post-modernism, Post-It.

If the Biro, with its functional purity and ease of mass production, was the great gift of modernism to the office environment, then the Post-It Note is post-modernism's gift to the office.

And this brings me to what I love most about the Post-It Note - its McLuhan-esque capacity to signify itself. Let me elaborate. You are sick of answering your colleague's phone and leaving messages on scraps of paper whose receipt you subsequently overhear being vehemently denied when the unrequired caller rings back. Solution: write the message on a Post-It Note - name, number and instruction to "please call back" - and leave the Post-It stuck dead-square centre of said colleague's computer screen.

Deniality denied.

Actually, I prefer the frankly philistine late-Eighties attitude of the employees at a firm of City accountants. Not impressed by the boardroom's policy of collecting contemporary art, they used the abstract paintings as notice boards and stuck Post-It Notes all over them.

But its own contemporaneity is the great beauty of the Post-It Note. For a product that came into existence by accident and failure - when its lateral-thinking inventor, Art Fry, found a use for some not-very-adhesive adhesive - the Post-It has established a remarkable and instant rapport with the spirit of the age. Think

there is no reason why your micro-memo should not also be an aesthetically pleasing experience.

Inevitably, there is now an artist who works with Post-It Notes: Melvyn Gerard used \$0,000 in her 1998 work, *The Sampler*.

I've only seen it on the Web, but *The Sampler* just looks, well, like a wall covered in yellow paper scales. I don't think she has a problem with sponsorship, though.

Actually, I prefer the franky philistine late-Eighties attitude of the employees at a firm of City accountants. Not impressed by the boardroom's policy of collecting contemporary art, they used the abstract paintings as notice boards and stuck Post-It Notes all over them.

And the Post-It is available - sorry to sound like a promo for the 3M Corporation - in 34 colours, 27 sizes and 56 shapes. So whether you stick to that ubiquitous yellow, or plump for orange, blue or mauve,

the Post-It Note is a remarkable and instant rapport with the spirit of the age. Think

WHAT ON earth did people do before they had Post-It Notes?

It's like trying to imagine what life was like without disposable nappies, penicillin or electric light. Migrating from office to home, via the white-collar crime of stationery-cupboard larceny, those lemon-yellow squares with one sticky side have become so indispensable to modern life that to imagine an existence without them is to be pitched into ontological crisis.

The first shining virtue of the Post-It Note is that it acts as a buffer between our fragile sense of order and the messy reality of everyday life. Can't find your Filofax? Never read the manual to your Psion? Never mind. Just write yourself a Post-It Note and stick it somewhere you're going to see it. Magically, the Post-It opens out a cool, neutral space between the twin poles of organisation and of chaos that govern our lives.

No accident, then, that it was so successfully launched in the Eighties, the decade when life mutated out of what it had been for most of the post-war period - a steady round of work and leisure - and into a continuous and escalating study in stress management. Just as we

JOYS OF MODERN LIFE

13. POST-IT NOTES

BY MATT SEATON



were all about to be deluged by a torrent of phone messages, new fax numbers, changes of address, shopping lists, instructions to/from spouse/nanny/milkman, the Post-It Note plugged the hole in the dyke. It is, if you like, the graphic equivalent of our poor brains' overloaded short-term memory - a portable means of storing, temporarily but reliably, information that can later be recorded and filed properly or simply discarded.

And the Post-It is available - sorry to sound like a promo for the 3M Corporation - in 34 colours, 27 sizes and 56 shapes. So whether you stick to that ubiquitous yellow, or plump for orange, blue or mauve,

about it: post-fordism, post-feminism, post-modernism, Post-It.

If the Biro, with its functional purity and ease of mass production, was the great gift of modernism to the office environment, then the Post-It Note is post-modernism's gift to the office.

And this brings me to what I love most about the Post-It Note - its McLuhan-esque capacity to signify itself. Let me elaborate. You are sick of answering your colleague's phone and leaving messages on scraps of paper whose receipt you subsequently overhear being vehemently denied when the unrequired caller rings back. Solution: write the message on a Post-It Note - name, number and instruction to "please call back" - and leave the Post-It stuck dead-square centre of said colleague's computer screen.

Deniality denied.

Actually, I prefer the franky philistine late-Eighties attitude of the employees at a firm of City accountants. Not impressed by the boardroom's policy of collecting contemporary art, they used the abstract paintings as notice boards and stuck Post-It Notes all over them.

And the Post-It is available - sorry to sound like a promo for the 3M Corporation - in 34 colours, 27 sizes and 56 shapes. So whether you stick to that ubiquitous yellow, or plump for orange, blue or mauve,

about it: post-fordism, post-feminism, post-modernism, Post-It.

If the Biro, with its functional purity and ease of mass production, was the great gift of modernism to the office environment, then the Post-It Note is post-modernism's gift to the office.

And this brings me to what I love most about the Post-It Note - its McLuhan-esque capacity to signify itself. Let me elaborate. You are sick of answering your colleague's phone and leaving messages on scraps of paper whose receipt you subsequently overhear being vehemently denied when the unrequired caller rings back. Solution: write the message on a Post-It Note - name, number and instruction to "please call back" - and leave the Post-It stuck dead-square centre of said colleague's computer screen.

Deniality denied.

Actually, I prefer the franky philistine late-Eighties attitude of the employees at a firm of City accountants. Not impressed by the boardroom's policy of collecting contemporary art, they used the abstract paintings as notice boards and stuck Post-It Notes all over them.

And the Post-It is available - sorry to sound like a promo for the 3M Corporation - in 34 colours, 27 sizes and 56 shapes. So whether you stick to that ubiquitous yellow, or plump for orange, blue or mauve,

CLASSIFIED

Legal Notices

The Insolvency Rules 1986

Rule 4(1)(k)

CAREWAND LIMITED

(FORMERLY KNOWN AS

FLEETSIDE SERVICES LTD)

In Creditors Voluntary Liquidation

Notice is hereby given that the frames of

the following persons

are creditors of the above named company

at the above address:

24 Constant Place, London NW1 1EP

and that the said persons

are entitled to receive notice

of the time and place of the meeting

of creditors

which will be held on

10th October 1998

at the above address

at 12.00 noon

for the purposes mentioned in

Section 14 of the said Act.

Notice is given that the said company

has been wound up

in accordance with the said Act

and that the liquidator

is the joint liquidator of the said

company.

Dated this 4th day of September

1998

By Order of the Board

D. GETTS, Director

Health & Leisure

McKINLEY

& YOUNG

RATH OIL

A non medicinal therapy

oil warms and relaxes

all over muscular joint

aches and pains the way

nature intended.

E12.99 Inc. P.R. 40ml

HEALTH

There's a killer on the run...

Meningitis is the disease that every parent dreads. But the fightback has begun. By Jeremy Laurance

Good news is not what we have come to expect from meningitis. It is a fearsome disease, dreaded equally by parents and doctors, trailing tales of tragedy, not triumph. Parents worry for their children about a disease that attacks with unnerving speed and ferocity, and doctors worry for their reputations, for it is notoriously easy to miss. Lucy Prescott's symptoms were diagnosed as tonsillitis, after which she was prescribed antibiotics and painkillers. Two days later, she was critically ill in hospital, although she went on to make a full recovery.

Yet, there is encouraging progress in the battle against meningitis. The war is far from over but advances are being made against one of the most devastating illnesses of modern times. Today, Tessa Jowell, the health minister, will climb aboard a London bus full of children who have survived meningitis to mark the launch of this year's Meningitis Awareness Campaign.

The children, who are testimony to the advances made against the disease, will seek to remind doctors and parents that because meningitis can kill in hours, minutes cannot be wasted. Early diagnosis and urgent treatment provide the best hope of recovery.

The message is getting through. Despite the huge rise in cases in recent years, the death rate is sharply down. There are even signs that the disease may have peaked. Last winter saw the first fall in total cases of meningococcal disease, the commonest and severest form of meningitis, for six years.

Since the winter of 1991-92, the annual toll has doubled from 1,200 cases to over 2,500 in 1996-97, the highest for 50 years. The increase is thought to be due to greater awareness and better recording, but no one really knows why it should have risen so far and so fast. (It is still well below the epidemic of the early 1940s when

cases rose to a peak of 13,000 a year.) It is too soon to tell whether last winter's dip is a blip or the beginning of a downward trend but it is the first encouraging sign this decade.

The chances of any individual diagnosed with meningitis surviving to tell the tale have dramatically improved during the 1990s, in spite of the rise in cases. The reason is greater recognition of the need for immediate treatment with antibiotics and improved care. The death rate from meningococcal septicaemia - blood poisoning, and the most serious complication of meningitis - fell from almost 60 per cent in 1989 to under 20 per cent in 1997. Overall, for every 100 people who developed meningococcal meningitis last year, more than 90 survived.

Too many still die. In 1997, there were 243 deaths. The only sure defence against this fatal illness would be a vaccine given in infancy and providing lifelong protection.

Last week scientists revealed a real hope of developing a vaccine against the Group C strain of the disease, the fastest growing one, which accounts for 40 to 50 per cent of all cases. Trials have shown promising results that it could provide lifelong protection from infancy.

Dr David Salisbury, principal medical officer at the health department, which is backing the trials by the Government's Public Health Laboratory Service, said:

"The studies will take one to two years to complete. The results so far are very exciting. The vaccine is given at two months of age and produces a fantastic level of antibodies and appears remarkably safe."

Dr Salisbury said progress was also being made towards the development of a Group B vaccine, which caused over half of all cases of meningitis, but that would take longer. Once the studies were complete, there would be a further delay before manufacturers could apply for a licence and produce the vaccine in

"The diagnosis is difficult and

commercial quantities. Details of research on the vaccines were given at a press conference chaired by the Government's chief medical officer, Sir Kenneth Calman, making one of his last appearances in the post - he retires this week to take up a post as vice-chancellor of Durham University. He said the public and GPs should be vigilant for signs of the disease and act quickly where it was suspected.

One place where male hypochondria certainly can be found is among medical students. I decided at one time that I had the early symptoms of ankylosing spondylitis, a crippling disease that eventually fuses the spine into a solid rod. All I really had was a trapped nerve in the back. And a friend, after a lot of reading, came up with the idea that he had a rare cancer of the lymph glands. His diagnostic skills were a bit more impressive however; because he unfortunately turned out to be right.

From the results of the Benylin survey it seems men over-play their illnesses more than women. Or rather that's what the women thought they did, which is not quite the same thing. Women were asked about male partners' behaviour; and vice versa. Men were more likely to describe their viral upper respiratory tract infections as "fun" and transform themselves into a pathetic shambles, whereas the sensible women just called it a cold and got on with their lives. Another interpretation could be that women are less sympathetic about men's illnesses than men about women, but that doesn't make for such a good story.

the symptoms are often like flu. Any flu-like illness that occurs outside the flu season should be treated with great care," he said.

Sir Kenneth disclosed that students in Southampton, Leicester and Cardiff were offered vaccination against meningitis because of the history of outbreaks among students in those cities, but it would not be offered to students elsewhere. The existing vaccine against the Group C strain is only partially effective, lasts for one to two years and does not provide protection in infants under 18 months of age.

The worry about offering a partially effective vaccine, which is any-

ways active against only one strain of the disease, is that it may induce a false sense of security and full individuals who fall ill into believing they cannot have meningitis so that they delay seeking medical help. Sir Kenneth said that the decision to vaccinate had been taken by the three

universities concerned and was not appropriate for all students.

There has been great concern about meningitis outbreaks among students, although the peak age is in infants under one. Cases are high in children up to the age of five and the disease kills more children between one and four than any other single factor. A second, smaller peak occurs around the age of 15 onwards and drops off by the age of 18 or 19.

Sir Kenneth said every minute

counted in the management of meningitis and parents of babies who were drowsy, unresponsive and unwell with a rash should apply the glass test. Under a glass tumbler, a normal rash disappears but a meningococcal rash does not - time for urgent medical attention. "Be aware, be alert and be active," he said.

The Meningitis Research Foundation operates a 24-hour helpline on 01454 413344

George Phillips

Lucy Prescott, a survivor of meningitis whose symptoms were mistaken as tonsillitis



A fatal case of hypochondria. It happens. And it's usually to men

Males often over-play their illnesses - or are females just unsympathetic? By Dr Ed Walker

ACCORDING TO a survey last week, carried out by the makers of Benylin, men are hypochondriacal wimpers when compared to women. This is at least in part borne out by personal experience. One subgroup of male patients attending the emergency department where I work are without doubt the worst over-exaggerators of symptoms you could ever come across.

They are the martial arts brigade - karate, judo and the like. As patients, they always attend surrounded by two or three colleagues who support and half-carry the limping victim through the door. They have usually been kicked by someone - and that person's feet are trained to kill, I am in-



When it comes to illness, men are the weaker sex

formed. A foot that can break breeze blocks can surely shatter a tibia. But when the injured part is exposed, all you usually find is the tiniest imaginable bruise. It is considered bad form not to provide any treatment to such a patient, and they usually limp out with the medically unnecessary, but culturally mandatory, tubular bandage. But the most stoical group of patients, verging on the masochistic, are also men. Rugby players are well known for having their fractured noses straightened pitch-side before playing on. What is less well recognised is the number that will play on with broken ankles and, on one occasion, train for a season with a potentially fatal unstable neck fracture.

The term "hypochondria" comes from the name of an area of the body called, unsurprisingly, the hypochondrium. It is the part just below the bottom of the ribcage, where the cartilage of the ribs joins the breastbone. It is also the area where many people experience the vague flutterings, aches and twinges often attributed incorrectly to serious disease. Hence the term being adopted to describe anyone who persistently worries about their

health, or leads unwarranted significance to their symptoms. Doctors are reluctant to tell patients there is absolutely nothing wrong with them, at least until they have been thoroughly investigated. And some patients, even when they have had every test known to medical science, are even more reluctant to accept the diagnosis. This is why a serious case of hypochondriasis can be fatal these days. A patient may be referred initially by their GP to a general surgeon for investigation of "abdominal bloating". The surgeon finds nothing

wrong, and refers to a gynaecologist, who decides that the back ache is more significant, and refers on to an orthopaedic surgeon. The orthopaedist decides to operate on the patient's back but after all this they still have the problem they started with. So the original surgeon opens up the abdomen to have a look inside, having turned up nothing on X-ray and ultrasound. The patient dies from post-operative complications, and a post-mortem reveals nothing wrong at all, apart from the damage caused by all the surgery and tests. It happens.

Blotched by the sun

When I returned from holiday my chest and back were covered with small, white round patches which completely ruined my suntan. What are they and how can I get rid of them?

A QUESTION OF HEALTH



DR FRED KAVALIER

It causes more suffering to others than to the person who has been affected by it. One research study showed that five to 10 per cent of people snore loudly enough to be heard in the next room. It can be caused by big tonsils or a small, receding chin that allows the jaw to slide backwards. Some people who snore have sleep apnoea which causes them to stop breathing for short periods while they are asleep. Too much alcohol and some sedative drugs can also contribute to snoring. If you are overweight, it may make you snore. Correcting any of these causes may help snoring. For people with a jaw problem, it is possible to have a custom-made splint fitted to hold the jaw forwards, and this can be very effective. Some ear, nose and throat specialists have a special interest

in snoring problems. If yours is severe it might be worth getting some specialist advice.

I am awakened every hour or two at night by the need to empty my bladder, although it is not full. During the day I am fine. Why this difference between day and night? And where is the "water" stored which keeps re-filling my bladder. I am over 80 and had my prostate removed many years ago.

There are likely to be at least two separate factors contributing to your problem. First is your bladder, which sounds as though it has become rather irritable. This means that the bladder wants to empty itself even when it is not full. For some reason this is often worse at night, perhaps because there is nothing to distract from the sensation of wanting to go to the toilet. The second factor is related to how your body controls the production of urine. Normally, the amount of urine we produce is reduced at night, but this natural day-night rhythm can be less pronounced as you get older. The water isn't stored - it is continually being filtered out of your bloodstream by the kidneys.

S.A.D.

SAD is Seasonal Affective Disorder or Winter Depression. For *WAT FRED* an information pack about SAD and details of light therapy and our exclusive HOME THERAPY system, please get in touch.

Outside in, the Body Clock Company, Freepost 1071800, Cambridge CB2 7RA, 01223 221555, www.bodyclock.co.uk

Give

Poison on our plates

The man blew the whistle on BSE has written a truly frightening book. By Jerome Burne

While reading this book, my children were playing a tape of the fable of *The Emperor's New Clothes*. Its moral was clear; that pointing out the truth to authority is not only the right thing to do, but it also brings rewards. In the real world, however, pointing out inconvenient truths is rarely appreciated, as Professor Richard Lacey has painfully discovered over the past 15 years.

The man who blew the whistle not only on BSE but also on salmonella, listeria and cook-chill has been forced out of his job, suffered death threats and been dubbed the "mad professor" - a hysterical who was academically out of his depth. Last week, at the British Association for the Advancement of Science festival, I was confidently told that he was a bit too fond of the media and had ventured out of his field over BSE. This about a man who wrote one of the definitive scientific review papers on the topic back in 1990 and on the day that a news story indicated that BSE could have passed to sheep. A lot of effort went into blackening Lacey's name.

It is now clear that the BSE crisis was appallingly handled. The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (Maff), other Whitehall departments and the ministers involved were all astoundingly economical with the truth when it came to informing the public about what they knew or, at least, what they suspected. The policy was to avoid admitting anything that might damage the interests of farmers and food producers, regardless of the possible dangers to the public health. In *Poison on a Plate: the dangers of the food we eat and how to avoid them* (Metro, £12.99), Lacey, clearly and straightforwardly, details one fudge and lie after another. It is a shocking read.

For example, the one detail of the BSE story that everyone remembers is that the cows probably developed the disease when they were fed ground-up animal protein. Turning herbivores into cannibals is so horrible it sticks in the mind. What Lacey makes clear, however, is that, although it hardly put farmers in a good light, this explanation suited the farming lobby and their allies such as Maff very well. It provided an explanation of how the whole thing started and, by implication, meant that the trouble should be over once the practise stopped.

But while it may have been a factor, as far back as 1988 the government suspected that it wasn't the only one. Another possibility, with far more horrifying implications, was that BSE could be passed from a cow to her calves. Lacey had suggested as much in 1990 and was dismissed as ignorant and hysterical. However, by that time the government had already carried out top secret tests of precisely this theory.

By 1993 it was clear that it could happen, and eventually it emerged that it occurred in more than 10 per cent of cases where the mother was infected and nearly 5 per cent where she wasn't. Yet no-one officially



Feeding ground-up animals to cattle was certainly an element in the development of BSE

Brian Harris

admitted the fact until last year. What that means is that animal protein in cattle feed isn't the only source of BSE; and it raises the possibility that infected humans could pass it on to their offspring.

But the book is remarkably free from "I told you so". He does allow himself a pat on the back when the Government sets up the Food Standards Agency, promises more openness about public health issues and sets up an enquiry to investigate the sorry affair - all things he had been agitating for years.

What the book does show clearly is that BSE was a disaster waiting to happen. The food scares that first brought Lacey to prominence in the Eighties - salmonella and listeria - were dry runs for what happened later. In each case the instinctive response of the ministry was to deny, delay and ignore. Lacey used the media because there were no other channels open to him. Again, the cumulative detail is shocking.

For instance, it emerges that while Maff was denying that there was any problem with salmonella-

infected flocks, it had already spent three years agonising over how much to tell the public about secret reports detailing the level of infection. Similarly, the dangers of both

The decision not to institute a slaughter programme will prove the biggest disaster both in suffering and hard cash a British government has ever taken in peace time

listeria and E. coli 0157 were known long before preventable outbreaks of infection killed dozens of people.

But it's all right now isn't it? Matters are certainly better, although the number of food poisoning cases continues to rise. Some

safety standards have been tightened, and Labour's promises of more openness means that the kind of blatant evasions we saw under the Tories should be harder. But there is still the great unknown hanging over BSE. It obviously has infected humans and, although so far there are only officially 27 dead, for a number of reasons that may be a gross underestimate.

What no one knows is how many have been infected by this terrible disease. Hundreds? Thousands? Millions? Lacey plumps for the grim figure of a 5 per cent death rate from CJD (the form BSE takes in humans) in the UK population within the next 10 years. He believes the decision not to institute a major slaughter programme in 1990 will turn out to be "the biggest disaster both in suffering and in hard cash that a British government has ever taken in peace time". Other experts believe he is being wildly alarmist.

The truth is that we just don't know because there has not been the sort of concentrated research campaign into BSE that was brought to

bear on the comparable crisis of Aids. There is not an inkling of a cure, we don't know how BSE is transmitted, and the only way of telling whether animals or humans are infected is by a post-mortem or by taking a brain tissue sample when symptoms are well advanced.

One lesson from the book stands out. The food on our plates suddenly became more dangerous as a result of technological developments that changed the way our food was raised or prepared. Freezing, convenience foods and the microwave contributed to the earlier food-poisoning scares, while feeding animal protein to herbivores was an element in BSE. These all had unforeseen effects that allowed otherwise harmless microbes to colonise new territory - the human gut or brain.

No genetic engineering promises to make equally wide-ranging changes in the nature of our foods, and it is also backed by very wealthy vested interests. Will anyone take notice of the watchdogs when they bark next time around, or will we have to wait until the children start dying?

OH DEAR. The world is becoming a more miserable place, according to the Government's chief medical officer. Prescriptions for antidepressants - chiefly Prozac and its relatives - leapt 18 per cent among men and 15 per cent among women in just two years from 1994.

Sir Kenneth Calman, who noted the figures in his seventh and final annual report, *On the State of the Public Health, 1997*, published last week, thinks this is worrying news, a sign of the excessive demands placed on people by modern life.

The rise appeared to indicate a genuine increase in suffering, rather than reckless prescribing and as such "it does merit looking into further", he said.

I beg to disagree. The rise

in prescribing is a cause for celebration, not commiseration, a sign that last misery is being taken seriously as a (frequently) treatable condition. Instead of staring gloomily into the abyss, Sir Kenneth, who retires this week to take up a post as vice-chancellor of the University of Durham, should be breaking open the champagne to mark one of the greater achievements of his reign as the nation's top doctor.

His pronouncement, however, had the predictable effect. Stories headlined, "This pill-popping nation" bemoaned our increasing reliance on pharmaceutical props. Sir Kenneth played up to the agenda - unwittingly, I suspect - that sees the stress of modern life as the source of all our ills.

Yet one of the most serious of our social ills is the unreasonable fear of psychoactive drugs. Depression exacts a huge toll of human suffering, much of it unnecessary because effective treatment is easily available.

It takes the lives of more than 4,000 people a year, many of them young, by suicide. Fear of the stigma of mental illness and professional reluctance to investigate emotional problems conspire to keep the suffering hidden.

Most people have no difficulty with the beta-blockers prescribed to millions to control their blood pressure, or the insulin given to diabetics to control their glucose level, but suggest a pill to boost serotonin levels and they react as if confronted by a drug pusher. Surely, goes the standard response, people should be able to cope without such chemical aids.

Or, in the less charitable version, stop moaning and pull their socks up. Well, up to a point.

There are self-help techniques for dealing with depression - cognitive

HEALTH CHECK



JEREMY LAURANCE

strategies related to positive thinking, for example - as there are for holding blood pressure down - such as exercise. But many people find them impossible to apply or that they do not work. Then drugs should be an option.

Many reject drugs because they fear they will become dependent, but this is based on a misapprehension. Antidepressants such as Prozac are not addictive, even after many years of use. They are chemically different from the benzodiazepine tranquilisers such as Valium, which are addictive, and which are now only used for short-term treatment of a few weeks.

There is also a deeper, moral, fear typified by the "pill-popping" headlines. This is the view that doctors who hand out Prozac should be classed with barmen pouring whiskies or dealers selling lines of cocaine. It, too, is based on a misapprehension. Antidepressants do not provide pleasure, they restore the capacity for pleasure.

Depression drains the pleasure as well as the point, from life. People in its grip lose the sense of their own value and then of the value of anything. They fear being taken for malingering and often feel to blame for their condition. The shame adds to the depression. People taking the drugs for the first time are often surprised at how their mood has lifted without their feeling befuddled.

The drugs do not induce euphoria - they restore normal functioning so that sufferers can get on with their lives. The Royal College of Psychiatrists launched a five-year campaign in 1992 to counter the stigma of depression and encourage more people to seek treatment.

It has now been extended for a further three years under the auspices of the National Depression Campaign, an umbrella group.

The rise in prescribing is testimony to its success. But there is a lot further to go.

Give them understanding, not just drugs

Despite research suggesting Ritalin can calm children with ADHD, some experts question the wisdom of relying on an amphetamine. By Roger Dobson

IT HAD, admits Michele Riley, been a bad morning. Her eight-year-old son Aaron had smashed his wardrobe and broken through a locked door into the kitchen before anyone else was awake, leaving a trail of devastation.

"He had got £5-worth of meat out of the fridge and fed it to the cats, then drunk a litre of juice without diluting it and left the fridge door open. He'd got sweets and crisps out, mixed them all on the floor and in the cat litter tray. And then we found he had broken his wardrobe door", she says.

But 20 minutes or so later after the hyperactive Aaron had taken his pill, all is quiet and peaceful in the Riley household in Essex.

"I leave it for 20 to 30 minutes after I have given him the tablet and then I ask him to get ready for school and he says, 'Yes mummy' and then he'll say something like, 'Is there anything I can do for you mummy?' Once he has had his tablet he is a totally different boy," explains Mrs Riley.

Aaron, like his five-year-old brother Martin, has been diagnosed as having attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, or ADHD, and the tablets he takes up to three times a day are Ritalin. New research published this week at a British Psycho-



ADHD-affected children act before they think and are less satisfied with rewards

logical Society conference says that the classroom behaviour of school children on Ritalin improves to the level of children who do not have ADHD. The work, by Rebecca Shaw, at Dundee University, found that medication worked better than increased supervision.

But many critics attack the very idea of giving an amphetamine-like drug to children.

They also fear that Ritalin is following the trend in America, where several million children are on Ritalin and some schools report having one-in-four pupils on the medication.

Few conditions and treatments involving children are as controversial as ADHD and Ritalin. At one extreme, it is claimed that five per cent of all children have ADHD and need treatment, while at the other, critics deny the very existence of the disorder and say that drugs dampen what is merely youthful exuberance.

In Britain the number of children being given Ritalin has rocketed over the last six years, according to new figures. In 1992, only 2,000 prescriptions were issued, but in the last 12 months that annual figure had shot up to nearly 100,000 and appears to be more than doubling every year. This does not include drugs given by hospitals to children or those pre-

scribed by private practitioners. One of the problems with ADHD is the difficulty of diagnosis because the symptoms are non-specific and in many cases similar to those seen in a dysfunctional family.

He says that ADHD is caused by a minor difference in the fine tuning of the brain due to an imbalance in the neurotransmitter chemicals, nor-

drenaline and dopamine. This imbalance is mostly found in those parts of the brain responsible for putting the brakes on unruly behaviour.

The result is that affected children act before they think, do not consider the implications of a sequence of events and are less satisfied with rewards.

In the USA, ADHD is treated almost universally as an organic disease, with the use of medication, mostly the stimu-

lant Ritalin. In the UK, drug therapy has traditionally been used for less frequently and the symptoms have often been diagnosed and treated with behaviour therapy or counselling.

Dr Alyson Hall, consultant child psychiatrist at the Royal London Hospital says that in Britain psychiatrists have been careful not to view drug therapy as a panacea for all child behavioural problems.

"There is a small core of children that require medication, but it is a difficult diagnosis to make. Ritalin is an amphetamine derivative and improves concentration. It works by allowing children to stop and think," she says. "Use here varies and some psychiatrists are reluctant to use it, or are philosophically opposed to it."

In the USA there is a backlash against the huge amounts of Ritalin being used. The International pressure group Parents Against Ritalin (PAR) has been active in campaigning and a number of teachers and psychiatrists are also opposing its use with the slogan, "Education not medication".

One of the most vocal of the opponents is Maryland psychiatrist Dr Peter Breggin, who says that the stimulants work by suppressing and controlling children and not by treating any biological problem.

Mrs Riley says she is tired of the critics of the ADHD diagnosis and the drug treatment: "I try to explain that the children can't help themselves when they are in one of their tantrums, but there are a lot of ignorant people out there who assume it is a naughty child."

"Because of that, you tend to stick with the people you know. We have walked away from many people we have been friends with for years. It's hard, but you have to just carry on."

The ADHD Family Support Group, in High Street, Dilton Marsh, Wiltshire, BA13 4DL, has a helpline on 01373 826045. Essex ADHD Family Support Group 01702 30545.

Healthcare for men

Well Men Screening

- Vial to detect early signs of serious conditions such as testicular cancer and high blood pressure whatever your lifestyle.
- Expert advice and time to discuss your concerns with a doctor who listens.
- Gynaecology centres nationwide.
- Call the UK's leading healthcare clinic on 0171 388 0662

MARIE STOPES HEALTH CLINICS

Romantics start here

British Romanticism, in all its guiltless passion, was given a very quiet birth by Coleridge and Wordsworth in an anonymous volume of poetry. By Michael Glover

Two hundred years ago this month there went on sale in London, at five shillings a piece, 500 copies of a collection of poems called *The Lyrical Ballads*. The book was published anonymously, a common practice at the time. Despite appearances to the contrary, the book had not one author but two, and it contained, at the beginning and the end, two of the greatest poems ever written in the English language. Many of the ones in-between were not half-bad either; though not quite so remarkable as "The Ancient Mariner" and the otherwise-casually-named "Lines Written a Few Miles Above Tintern Abbey".

This book, together with its famous preface (which didn't appear in the first edition because it was written later and in response to criticisms of the book), was a revolutionary act in English poetry, and a defining moment in the development of British Romanticism, a movement which has continued to influence profoundly the way we think about the relationship between life and how we represent it in writing and art.

Its two authors were both young English poets in their twenties, William Wordsworth and Samuel Taylor Coleridge. Wordsworth's contribution to the book was much the greater - Coleridge contributed two poems, Wordsworth nineteen. The two men were constant companions at this point in their lives. Later on, they became estranged, and as Wordsworth's life gained respectability - he was made Poet Laureate in 1843 - so Coleridge's declined into material wretchedness and drug addiction.

But in the 1790s, they were like two peas in a pod, together almost daily, and they conceived of the idea for this book of poems together. They shared similar political convictions; they had both republicans and stampingly opposed to the war with France. But, of even greater importance, they felt similarly about life.

This snatch of a letter written by Coleridge to his brother in March 1798 could just as easily have been written by Wordsworth; in fact, it reads rather as if it were a commentary upon "Tintern Abbey" which it could not possibly have been because Wordsworth didn't write

that poem until two months after this letter was written:

"Love fields and woods and mountains with almost a visionary fondness - and because I have found benevolence and quietness growing within me as that fondness (has) increased, therefore I should wish to be the means of implanting it in others."

There are various hallmarks of romanticism in this extract: the sheer feeling and intensity of the style of writing; the importance attached



by Coleridge to the fact that it is he himself who is experiencing the effect of nature bearing down upon him so benignly - the measure of truth is the individual human response; and the plainness of the language that he is using, quite lacking in artificiality of diction. All these are defining aspects of both Romanticism in general and of *The Lyrical Ballads* in particular.

The book itself was to consist of two kinds of poem. The first would include elements of the supernatural, though these poems should not lack psychological credibility - the "Ancient Mariner" itself is the supreme example of this. The second sort would consist of subjects chosen from ordinary life, local characters and incidents, and all these poems would be written in a plain, unadorned style. Both poets agreed to observe "the two cardinal points of poetry, the power of exciting the sympathy of the reader by a faithful adherence to the truth of nature, and the power of giving the interest of novelty by the modifying colours of the imagination".

And how did these two revolutionary poets appear to their contemporaries? Like gods? Or mere men? One of the most vivid accounts of them was written by the wonder-

fully impressionable essayist William Hazlitt, who met both of them for the first time in the year of the publication of *The Lyrical Ballads*.

He first glimpses Coleridge, a round-faced man dressed in a short black coat "which hardly seemed to have been made for him", descending from coach in Shrewsbury. What strikes Hazlitt so forcibly is how much Coleridge talks, and the brilliance and the intellectual variegatedness of that talk: how the poet gesticulates and dilates as he passes with such seeming ease from subject-to-subject, from politics to literature to metaphysical speculation and back again, as if "floating on air or sliding on ice..."

Young Hazlitt is left feeling, by comparison, dumb, inarticulate, helpless, "like a worm by the wayside, crushed, bleeding, lifeless..."

Hazlitt also described how the poet looked. His mouth is "gross, voluptuous, open, eloquent, his chin good-humoured and round; but his nose, the rudder of the face, the index of the will, was small, feeble, nothing..."

And then there is the rest of his person, "rather above the common size, inclining to be corpulent"; or, like Lord Hamlet, "somewhat fat and pursy, with long, pendulous hair falling in smooth masses over his forehead", the sort of hair "peculiar to enthusiasts, to those whose minds tend heavenward..."

To Hazlitt, Wordsworth seems plainer altogether, less like someone descended from the stars: a man who talks very freely and naturally, "with a mixture of clear gushing accents in his voice, a deep, guttural intonation, and a strong tincture of the Northern Burr, like the crush on wine..."

Both poets were in the habit of composing their poems as they walked through the countryside, though their preferred terrains differed. Coleridge liked ground that he could pit himself against - uneven, hacking his way through the straggling branches of a copse-wood. Wordsworth liked walking up and down a straight gravel path, intoning as he went or some similar spot where "the continuity of his verse met with no collateral interruption".

And what sort of impression did the sight of a poet composing poems out loud in the open air make upon the peasantry of the Lake District?



Wordsworth, above, and Coleridge, inset: like gods or mere men?

Hulton

Fortunately, some of them were interviewed by a certain Canon Rawnsley after Wordsworth's death. "Well, you know," replied one of the women, "Mr Wordsworth went humming and boozing about, and she, Miss Dorothy, kept close behind him, and she picked up the bits as he let 'em fall, and tak 'em down and put 'em together on paper for him. And you may," continued the good dame, "be very well aware as she didn't understand or make sense out of 'em, and I doubt that he (Wordsworth) didn't know much about them either himself. But, however, there's a great many folks as do, I dare say..."

The response to *The Lyrical Ballads*, from those who said that they did understand the book, was mixed. "The Ancient Mariner" itself was something of a sticking point. The poets had started work on the poems together, but soon Coleridge had flown off on the wings of poesy and left Wordsworth grounded. And when it was finished, Wordsworth took exception to some of the words that Coleridge had used. There were odd adjectives and fake megalisms running throughout it - such as the word "eldritch". Wasn't this book supposed to be written in the language such as men were actually using, for God's sake?

asked Wordsworth. Coleridge agreed - in part - and got rid of a lot of these odd archaisms in later editions of his poetry.

But the judgement of posterity in general has been exceedingly favourable: this book is a milestone in the history of English poetry because it helped to legitimise the possibility of writing guiltlessly, and with great force and passionate simplicity, about the human heart. And this permission to stop being coy about the self, this overpowering recognition that it is the individual who counts above all things else, changed everything - in literature, politics and art.

CHIP TAYLOR has always been a gambler, but there was no risk involved in picking up his guitar again after 15 years of playing the horses. Even in a lean year, the royalties from his three-chord trick "Wild Thing", courtesy of the Troggs, Jimi Hendrix and dozens of others, keeps the bread on the table. Janis Joplin's "Try", The Hollies' "I Can't Let Go" - no wonder when he decided to make a comeback in his comfortable mid-fifties, he titled his calling-card CD *Hit Man*.

As a racetrack gambler - the hobby he turned into a hugely lucrative profession in 1980 when yet another record company failed to pigeon-hole him - he was one of the best in America. It was a clinically practised obsession. Now that he is back in love with making music, however, there is little objectivity in his approach. The cold assessment of form, track and horseflesh has been replaced by a musical confessional, a sentimental autobiography.

It is a very American form of stand-up entertainment and what carries him through, as he ties up songs with anecdotes about his dying mother, his coal-miner grandfather or his new love, is the lack of brashness. Then, of course, he kicks into the song. He is a country writer from New York, an anecdotalist who wrote rock'n'roll's most simplistic anthem, a lyricist obsessed with the vagaries of the record business, a walking contradiction.

Towards the end of the show he became the fan that we all are, and pulled a master stroke, calling on PP Arnold. This Los Angeles soul singer, former member of Ike and Tina Turner's backing group, moved here in the mid-Sixties. Her soaring gospel voice gave much-needed grit to the evening. With guitarist John Platania slipping in little soul licks they swapped lines on PP's hit, "Angel of the Morning", and camped their way through "Wild Thing". A somewhat polite evening turned into a celebration of rock'n'roll.

Taylor's first encore, "Talking the President", was recorded months ago, but now this jokey song of a betrayed Democrat is more perceptive than ever. Taylor may never see his own name on a huge hit record, but as a writer he is as shrewd as ever.

JOHN COLLIS

If you know,

Write in tune again

POP

CHIP TAYLOR
PURCELL ROOM,
SBC LONDON

CHIP TAYLOR has always been a gambler, but there was no risk involved in picking up his guitar again after 15 years of playing the horses. Even in a lean year, the royalties from his three-chord trick "Wild Thing", courtesy of the Troggs, Jimi Hendrix and dozens of others, keeps the bread on the table. Janis Joplin's "Try", The Hollies' "I Can't Let Go" - no wonder when he decided to make a comeback in his comfortable mid-fifties, he titled his calling-card CD *Hit Man*.

As a racetrack gambler - the hobby he turned into a hugely lucrative profession in 1980 when yet another record company failed to pigeon-hole him - he was one of the best in America. It was a clinically practised obsession. Now that he is back in love with making music, however, there is little objectivity in his approach. The cold assessment of form, track and horseflesh has been replaced by a musical confessional, a sentimental autobiography.

It is a very American form of stand-up entertainment and what carries him through, as he ties up songs with anecdotes about his dying mother, his coal-miner grandfather or his new love, is the lack of brashness. Then, of course, he kicks into the song. He is a country writer from New York, an anecdotalist who wrote rock'n'roll's most simplistic anthem, a lyricist obsessed with the vagaries of the record business, a walking contradiction.

Towards the end of the show he became the fan that we all are, and pulled a master stroke, calling on PP Arnold. This Los Angeles soul singer, former member of Ike and Tina Turner's backing group, moved here in the mid-Sixties. Her soaring gospel voice gave much-needed grit to the evening. With guitarist John Platania slipping in little soul licks they swapped lines on PP's hit, "Angel of the Morning", and camped their way through "Wild Thing". A somewhat polite evening turned into a celebration of rock'n'roll.

Taylor's first encore, "Talking the President", was recorded months ago, but now this jokey song of a betrayed Democrat is more perceptive than ever. Taylor may never see his own name on a huge hit record, but as a writer he is as shrewd as ever.

JOHN COLLIS

American television embraces Starr quality

The Clinton-Monica tryst barely raised a smile at the Emmys. But then TV folks have always known which side their bread is buttered. By Susan Karlin

WHILE MOST of America took the weekend to ponder the implications of the Starr report, Hollywood partied on with the Emmy awards, America's most prestigious television prizes.

But something was missing. The jokes. Seems that this year's hot topic - the Clinton-Lewinsky tryst - was too painful for the mostly Democratic-leaning entertainment industry to poke fun at. Normally, these kinds of shows are a platform for quips about a recent political gaff or posturing remarks on the latest social crisis. Who could forget the post-Los Angeles riots shows where diamond-accessorized

celebs commented on a part of the city they never knew existed before it went up in flames?

The silence at Sunday's event was saying something. But what, exactly? Possibly the hub of the country's moral wasteland felt in no position to point a finger at one of their own.

Or maybe it was the thousand wanna-Monicas in the audience clutching the arms of their ageing produce "friends", who invited their young dates as a guarantee that they would at least one trophy that night.

Maybe it was a sign that Hollywood, which so strongly positioned itself behind Clinton

was not ready to admit defeat in so public a forum. After all, this broadcast was going out to millions of viewers around the world. Or maybe it simply had more to do with the adage that comedy is tragedy plus time. And there had not been enough time.

Only a few brave souls ventured forth. Comedian Dennis Miller, who won an Emmy for his HBO talk show, thanked Vernon Jordan for his job, while another Emmy-winning HBO comic Chris Rock walked on stage waving a cigar. "Early on in comedy, this was used as a prop," he grinned. "It

still is." The audience laughed very nervously.

Backstage in the press room, which was loaded with enough security to rival a Scary Spice Wedding, comedian Garry Shandling stood clutching a statuette for the *Larry Sanders Show* finale. He looked meaningfully at the reporters, hopelessly pathetic in ill-fitting dinner suits rented that afternoon. "Hopefully, this award will be as powerful as the presidency and I'll meet someone tonight," he gushed.

Not everyone was so flip. Legendary comic Milton Berle, who also has a fondness for

cigars, although preferring their more traditional use, refused to answer reporters questions about the... uh... situation. Jay Leno, usually a leading purveyor of Monica jokes on his nightly talk show, was subdued. And Billy Crystal, toting an Emmy for his Academy Awards hosting duties, was even more sombre.

"It's such a horrible thing. I can't even look at him," he said. "It's not funny, it's sad. The guy had such great promise. To have done this, and for what?" A sudden chill fell over the room. "But I'm really happy to have gotten this award," he recovered quickly.

get to be interviewed. Their cost for new acting jobs does not go up. So it stands to reason that such a mentality would explain Hollywood's hesitancy for pouncing on Clinton. Even a pack of jackals will circle a hurt animal until they know for certain that it is too weak to fight back.

Perhaps it is a sign that the Tinseltown jury is still out on Clinton's ability to rebut Starr's report. But if the jokes start coming again - and a lot from this part of the States - it may be more than just some funny lines.

It may be Hollywood advertising for a new winner.

When is yesterday's scandal tomorrow's good news?

When a newspaper is recycled

TO FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN HELP RECYCLE
FAX BACK NUMBER:
0860 616233
GARDEN CITY, 1000
STREET, DUBLIN, D1
E-mail: info@recycle.ie

Founded by THE INDEPENDENT & NEWSPAPER INDUSTRY ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION GROUP

What's this? No severed limbs?

THEATRE

CRAVE
ROYAL COURT AT THE AMBASSADORS LONDON

who sit on a row of chairs throughout and who, apart from a bit of expressive swivelling and one swapping of position, do nothing but talk in abrupt rhythmic crossovers, the piece is more like a poem than a play. These characters are as nailed to language and as resentfully dependent on it for a sense of their own existence as the protagonists in a Beckett piece.

As the title implies, aching need is the primary force behind *Crave*. An older man (Alan Williams) is infatuated with a young black girl (Sharon Dun-can-Brewster) who cannot rec-



ognise further painful emphasis on the inequalities love produces, the balance of power shifts in both relationships. The younger man, for example, tries to get off with a young man (Paul Thomas Hickey) in the hope that he will father the child she is desperate to have. Giving

writing's rhythmic urgency, Vicki Featherstone's excellent production sweeps you up into a world of dreadful emotional and spiritual blight.

On a number of occasions, *Crave* echoes *The Waste Land* ("Give, sympathise, control"). Eliot's poem gestures towards regeneration myths with which it cannot make a living connection. At a further desolate remove, Kane's play gestures towards a poem impotently gesturing.

The script has a highly wrought verbal texture. Simple phrases like "You could be my mother" are put through haunting repetitions so that they have a different implication each time (a fending-off tactic, an emotional plea, a taunting irony in the context of childlessness etc). There is plenty of bleak black

comedy, too. Could there be a more mordantly economic way of evoking the rock-bottom of unfearing irresponsibility than "A cold fuck and a goldfish memory", or of pinning down a seriously screwed-up relationship that, "I have faked orgasms before, but it is the first time that I've faked not having an orgasm"?

Occasionally, the writing is too facilely reflexive - lines like "I despair of despair" and "I have a bad, bad feeling about this bad, bad feeling" just feel like the arch start of an infinite regress. "I despair of despair..." - but the play repeatedly pushes beyond the merely clever and represents an expansion of her talent. There is evidently more than we had thought that bears the mark of Kane.

PAUL TAYLOR

If you really want to know, look in the mirror

Funny things, mirrors. But what's really interesting about them is how they reveal human drama. By Tom Lubbock

Jonathan Miller has done it with mirrors before. Last year, for instance, there was an opera programme on television, and he was rehearsing the closing love duet from *The Coronation of Poppea*. He directed the singers to sing it face to face, palms pressed to palms—as though they were each other's mirror images, either side of the glass.

I imagine that the idea was prompted partly by the duet's echoing cadences, partly by a sort of pun on its first line, "Pur ti miro" ("I gaze on you"). And the implied thought, that Nero and Poppea's serene ecstasy was really a mutual narcissism, was perfectly apt. Note that in this brilliant bit of staging no actual mirrors were involved.

There are plenty to be seen in *Mirror Image*, a concept-show devised and curated by Dr Miller at the National Gallery. Mirrors in pictures is the theme, plus reflective surfaces generally. It is rather a Science Museum affair. As well as a very choice assembly of paintings and prints, there are large explanatory wall-boards, and large colour copies of relevant but unobtainable works (such as a full-size repro of Velazquez's *Las Meninas*).

There are diagrams and demo-models, mug's guides to the physics of light and the psychology of perception. And there is fun stuff, like a two-way mirror and a mirror that pretends to be a through-doorway. A lecture by Ernst Gombrich with interventions from Harry Worth, that is the tone.

Now it seems to me that a person can be too interested in pictures with mirrors in them. At least, a view of art which is liable to make MC Escher seem as valuable as Velazquez must be a limited one. On the other hand, it may be that our artists have more in common with the world of Escher than I would like to admit. And obviously Western art, so obsessed with the look of the world and the act of looking, is bound to be drawn to looking glasses, because they are such visually weird things—in effect invisible objects, only shown by what you can see in them, and what you can see in them does not exist.

Mirrors are in some ways like pictures, in others not, but pictures tend to level all differences: put on canvas, a face and the reflection of a face may look indistinguishable, are equally intangible and equally real.

I paraphrase Miller's own reflections on the subject. Most of what his



Narcissus, transfixed by his own beauty, in a painting by 'a follower of Leonardo'

captions say is true and interesting.

Looking at Van Eyck's "Arnolfini Portrait", he points out that, if you concentrate on the image reflected in that famous round convex mirror, you no longer see the mirror as shiny—even though it is hard for us to shed the idea that the shininess of shiny things is a property independent of what they reflect. And he makes you very conscious of all those pairs of tiny white squares that occur in so many paintings—usually called highlights, but indicating reflected windows, windows that may lie well outside the picture's view. Reflections are often used to give a glimpse of a picture's "off-stage"; the wider world around it.

So Miller uses pictures to demonstrate perception, and perception as a clue to pictures. Very good. He displays some beautiful and curious instances, like Johann Erdmann Hummel's two pictures of a vast and highly polished granite bowl. But this approach risks being rather literal-minded about depiction, by presuming that pictures are normally records of something seen, painted on site. The truth is, pictures are often extremely cavalier about this. They put up a show of visual probity, but do something outrageous—but you are not really meant to notice.

Almost all pictures that show an

object, a mirror and a reflection of that object, get the optical relations wrong. Ingres' *Madame Moitessier* is a spectacular example: no way could the glass behind her reflect back her profile. Yet to see the image as impossible or paradoxical is to miss its point. Ingres wants to compose a two-fold image of his subject. Optics are just tools for use. Likewise, in the section devoted to self-portraits, though all the artists probably used a mirror in the process, one must recognise that while some are true to or curious about this fact, others are just not.

Well, perception is interesting and paradoxes are boring (yes, even those of *Las Meninas*, I am afraid). What one really wants to see is mirroring used, as Miller used it with that Monteverdi opera, to do human drama. There are excellent examples here. *A Man with a Mirror* (after Ribera) shows a man staring into a square mirror that he holds in front of him with both hands. It seems as if he is holding himself in his hands.

In a lovely little Lucian Freud, *Small Interior*, a big free-standing mirror occupies almost the whole image, the artist standing reflected in it, and the mirror is as much a character as the man. Narcissus, by a follower of Leonardo, wins by

concentrating on the young man's gazing face, showing only the very edge of the pool and none of his reflection—good to leave it to the imagination, because in the myth it is his first time with a mirror and he does not know it is him.

And Gustave Caillebotte—what an intelligent artist! He is not at all unknown, of course, this fringe Impressionist, but the news of just how good he was is still coming in. In a *Café* does the psychology of isolation simply and superbly and does it with a compendium of mirror effects. A man stands alone, a large cafe glass behind him; the two people chatting in the cafe, who he is looking at, only appear as reflections in it, an "off-stage" insert, made small and extra remote; so he seems to turn his back on them too and also upon his own reflection which shares a space with them; thus he is split from his social self. This splitting or doubling is one of the best ways pictures use mirrors.

But you may notice that all those are pictures of men, and it is a general truth. Women and mirrors usually do not get interesting pictorial treatment. Female vanity or male voyeurism is the rule, though it must be said that for cunning titillation, Christopher Wilhelm Eckersberg's *Woman Standing in front of a Mirror* is a neat piece of work. It uses a doubling effect to show the woman twice—naked but with her back to us, and her reflection facing us but cropped just above the nipples by the mirror's frame. A strip-tease, precisely.

The other big lesson here, not explicitly drawn, is oddly enough about artistic style.

Dwelling on all these

highlights and reflective surfaces makes you aware that shininess—how glossy a painter makes things look generally, or on the other hand how matt—is one of the great stylistic axes. Some artists create wet/polished worlds, others make dry/rough ones, and which you prefer is a very basic point of taste.

But no doubt there is much more to learn, and any viewer can think up further examples. Here is an oblique one, in the National Gallery itself: Jacob Jordaeus' *The Holy Family*. The virgin holds up the baby, staring out earnestly, while his gaze drifts to the side. The scene (*interpret*) is in front of a mirror, and seen from the mirror's point of view. She is saying "Look, it's you!"

Mirror Image—Jonathan Miller on Reflection: National Gallery, London; until 13 December; Admission £5.50, Concess £3.50

The National Gallery

THE INDEPENDENT COLLECTOR

JOHN WINDSOR'S GUIDE TO COLLECTING CONTEMPORARY ART: STEVEN ANDERSON

"ULLO! ULLO! What's going on 'ere, then?" Answer: Well Hung, Chris Evans's London art gallery, is giving 23-year-old Scottish painter Steven Anderson the first solo show of his self-portraits.

The huge paintings, up to 8ft, are not as revealing as they look. The hidden clue is that they were inspired by an emergency operation to remove a brain abscess that Anderson underwent at the age of 17. He nearly died.

If that had happened to you, you might feel an urge to demonstrate to people that the life force is still with you. You might want to actually show it to them by pulling it out of your head, like a vivid membrane. Denied an explanation, however, the first-nighters at the show's opening last week decided that the red extrusion was not a metaphor but a pair of women's tights. Which, indeed, they are.

Anderson persuaded his girlfriend to buy them from Marks and Spencer in Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow.

They are large-size, the last pair in the shop. To make the self-portraits fit strips, then pulls the tights over his head, and confronts himself in a mirror—removing the tights whenever he needs to see clearly to paint.

Self-confrontation is central to the process. That operation left emotional scars. "I felt I had to face what I was most scared of—that is, how I'm perceived by others. Although I did it for myself, I realised that I was painting for an audience."

Hence not only the

vulnerable self-exposure of nakedness, but the relaxed and confident pose. He made sure to paint big, larger than life, and to place himself centre-stage. "I wanted the image to be essential, basic. It was not until I stripped off that the dynamics of what I was doing started to work. I began to feel vital, empowered."

But his confidence sagged on opening night. Apprehensive—justifiably, as it turned out—he arrived an hour-and-a-half late.

A couple in their thirties told him they found the "distortions" disturbing. The wife said the images seemed to follow her when she visited other parts of the gallery. She did not want to stay too long because of their impact.

Half a dozen others had a go at him in the same way—an unusual response at an opening, where the standard drill is to face the centre of the room, ignore the artist, drink as much wine as possible, and

gossip. "I was surprised," says Anderson. "It had never occurred to me that there might be open criticism."

Did the first-nighters sense another hidden vein in his work? Witchcraft, perhaps?

While in hospital, he was given a copy of John Baptista Porta's *Natural Magic* of 1558. It speaks of creating new living creatures out of putrefaction, the basis of life. The earlier paintings in Anderson's series are dark. The figures, patrician-looking, emerge from a primordial blackness. Only in the later ones does the vivid red triumph.

"Porta's book has an amazingly New Age feel about it. It discusses mental techniques for healing. Although I did the self-portraits instinctively, I afterwards came to realise that I was trying to paint out badness, such as the abscess. Painting was like making spells or affirmations. I wanted something positive to happen. I wanted to produce something beyond the normal body. What I show coming out of my head is a living thing."

Or could the first-nighters' discomfiture have been due to the fact that the paintings,

although figurative, are loaded with conceptual content? The action of the figure is ritualistic and its nakedness, Anderson points out, "is the most powerful state to be in for spell-making—there should not be any added ingredients".

Even the technical accomplishment of the painting has, despite its anatomical accuracy, an ethereal quality. The outlines seem to be out of register—"like an aura, an extra dimension", says Anderson. The effect results from applying layer after layer of oil paint diluted with Shellac and Damer varnish, which show through one another, like watercolour. "That's how we're made ourselves," says Anderson, "in layers."

After four years at Glasgow School of Art, he came away with a lower second degree. He says staff changes had brought in more and more tutors who preferred conceptual to

figurative art. But he stuck doggedly to figurative painting and drawing. No figurative painter in his year was awarded a degree higher than a lower second. "You could say I'm not driven by fashion," he says.

Prices: £450 to £3,000. To 26 September at Well Hung Gallery, 39 Ledbury Road, Notting Hill, London, W11 (0171-727 1357)



THE INDEPENDENT

Travel to Paris free on Eurostar

The Independent on Sunday has chartered an entire Eurostar train to take readers to Paris. To claim a free seat for you and a partner, simply collect four tokens from The Independent/The Independent on Sunday and enter. Winners will be able to spend a weekend—or a week-long break in the French capital (the choice of return journey is yours). There are no losers: unsuccessful applicants will be entitled to discounts of up to £50 on travel to Paris or Brussels.

Ticket Type	Paris normal cost	Brussels normal cost
Standard Class	£28	£29
Discount	£20	£20

Ticket Type	Paris normal cost	Brussels normal cost
First Class	£150	£149
Discount	£90	£90

Ticket Type	Paris normal cost	Brussels normal cost
Business Class	£250	£250
Discount	£150	£150

Ticket Type	Paris normal cost	Brussels normal cost
Business Class	£350	£350
Discount	£200	£200

Ticket Type	Paris normal cost	Brussels normal cost
Business Class	£450	£450
Discount	£250	£250

Ticket Type	Paris normal cost	Brussels normal cost
Business Class	£550	£550
Discount	£300	£300

Ticket Type	Paris normal cost	Brussels normal cost
Business Class	£650	£650
Discount	£350	£350

Ticket Type	Paris normal cost	Brussels normal cost
Business Class	£750	£750
Discount	£400	£400

Ticket Type	Paris normal cost	Brussels normal cost
Business Class	£850	£850
Discount	£450	£450

Ticket Type	Paris normal cost	Brussels normal cost
Business Class	£950	£950
Discount	£500	£500

NAME

ADDRESS

PLEASE INDICATE YOUR CHOICE OF RETURN DATE BY TICKING THE PREFERRED DATE

DEC 6 DEC 7 DEC 8 DEC 11

MEDIA

The Independent Television Commission is under fire from a host of critics and vested interests. But, argues its chief executive, as the digital revolution sweeps the industry it must stand up for the interests of consumers. By Jane Robins

Is it time to call off the dogs?

Peter Rogers does not seem to have the weight of the world on his shoulders. Instead, he has the demeanour of a rather affable headmaster slightly dismayed at the unruliness of his pupils.

And yet Mr Rogers, the chief executive of the Independent Television Commission (ITC), is under attack from all directions. First, there are those who say that the ITC should have no business deciding on whether or not *News at Ten* should be abolished – that such things should be left to the market.

In a second camp are the critics who assert that the ITC is out of its depth when it tries to regulate on economics, and that it has got itself into a mess trying to determine the shape of Britain's digital future. Rarely, since it was set up eight years ago, has the television regulator been so widely criticised.

The latest broadsides began at the recent Edinburgh International Television Festival. Peter Bazalgette, the television executive who delivered the prestigious McFagart lecture, declared that the age of the ITC was over, that the regulation of television content was redundant, as viewers had become grown-ups and could make their own choices.

The view was seconded by Elisabeth Murdoch, daughter of Rupert, and chief executive of Sky Networks. She spoke of an explosion of choice in television viewing, and of programming decisions no longer being enforced on people from the top down. "The public will decide," she said.

Mr Rogers leapt to his own de-

fence, and seemed very much like a senior figure from the old school taking on uppity young rebels. Then, before the week was out, he was presented with one of the most difficult "top down" decisions of his career: His organisation will, after consultation, have to dictate whether the public gets to keep its news at 10pm.

To some degree, Mr Rogers is caught between a rock and a hard place. Let *News at Ten* remain, and he will receive brickbats from the Bazalgettes and Murdochs who think a fixed time slot absurdly anachronistic when CNN, Sky and the BBC are all broadcasting 24 hours news on other channels.

Allow *News at Ten* to be abolished, and the majority of viewers who have not yet signed up to the new channels will, along with Tony Blair, doubtless voice complaints or even a sense of betrayal.

Mr Rogers acknowledges that he is at an uncomfortable juncture between television past and television future. He says that the ITC's decision on *News at Ten* must be based on the situation as it is now, not as it might be in a year or two's time. "Seventy per cent of people still have only terrestrial channels... and the decision will be harder in a few years when 60-70 per cent are receiving Sky and CNN."

Rogers, 57, is a grammar school boy who became a career civil servant before joining the ITC's predecessor the IBA in 1982. Working his way through the ranks, he reached the top job at the ITC in 1996. His approach hints that ITV may not get its way.

"A decision on *News at Ten* has



Peter Rogers, head of the ITC, has some tough choices ahead – such as a decision on the future of *News at Ten*

Andrew Buurman

come before the Commission before," he says. "And it may come before the Commission again."

The second line of attack – on the ITC's forays into economic regulation – could cause the regulator permanent damage. It faces a legal argument that it has been acting beyond its powers – that it has become too big for its boots.

Mr Rogers smiles wryly when this is mentioned, and points out two large black files in his office, full of legal documents. The case, brought by programming company Flexitech, is about a phenomenon known in the industry as "bundling" – the process whereby less popular television channels are bundled together with other more desirable channels to make one "package" which then goes on sale to the consumer.

There is a joke which explains bundling. Two mice are sitting together watching television. "Why are we watching the *Kitty Kat channel*?" says one mouse. "Oh, we had to subscribe to the *Kitty Kat channel* to get the cheese channel," replies the second.

Mr Rogers and the ITC outlawed "big bundles" of channels, even though bundling contracts had already been signed. They thought it unfair that subscribers to Sky or cable should have to buy into big basic packages of channels which they simply did not want. Mr Rogers presents his decision as serving consumers' interests.

But the backlash from the television industry has been vicious. "The ITC does not understand the

market," is one allegation. "You can't interfere with contracts freely drawn up between two parties."

"The decision does not serve the consumer at all," is another. "It will mean the end of smaller niche channels, which need to hitch a ride with more populist channels. That reduces viewer choice."

Mr Rogers might well be on shaky ground. When questioned, he acknowledges that two other industry watchdogs, the Office of Fair Trading (OFT) and OFTEL, both reached different conclusions on bundling. They thought the market would sort out the big bundles – that Sky, cable and terrestrial providers would compete to offer smaller, lower priced packages.

"We thought this might happen in the fullness of time," says Mr Rogers. "But not quickly enough. It was crucial that we intervened and that digital television got off on the right foot."

Many in the industry see this as a busy-body approach, asking not only whether the regulator should be interfering in such matters, but whether it has a role to "promote digital" at all. You don't have car industry regulators promoting hatchbacks, they argue, or building industry regulators campaigning for bungalows.

The ITC is said to be anxious about the imminent judicial review. If it loses, its credibility will suffer greatly at a time when there is a turf war amongst regulatory bodies to see who will survive and flourish in the digital age.

Mr Rogers says that, despite

criticisms that television is dogged by regulatory spaghetti, the ITC or something like it should continue to exist alongside OFTEL and the OFT.

He would like to see the demise of the Broadcasting Standards Commission though, and wants the BBC brought under the same regulatory umbrella as commercial companies.

"Television should have a wholly new body," he says, "which is not the ITC. I'm an old man who retires in two and a half years' time – I've no axe to grind."

In that sense, Mr Rogers is battling only to ensure that the ITC distinguishes itself in its final years. It only makes his task harder that these years are throwing up the biggest challenges of the regulator's short history.

Silly season handouts help 'Express' play catch-up

Sales figures show the *Mail's* big lead is narrowing. By Paul McCann

AUGUST IS not the traditional time to run newspaper promotions as evidenced last week when the starting gun of September went up and half of Fleet Street seemed to see Richard Branson's life story as their circulation salvation.

In fact the two newspapers which tried a small amount of marketing and promotional work last month made healthy returns in the ABC newspaper figures for August.

The Express promoted a Millennium scratch card game which helped it increase sales by 28,000 copies more than July. The effect of this is best seen in comparison with the *Daily Mail* which lost over 32,000 copies in August compared with the month before.

The Express' deficit to the *Mail* is still minuscule – the *Mail* has doubled the market share of the tabloid press that The Express has – and Rosie Boycott's newspaper is still selling 64,000 copies fewer than it did in August 1997. Nevertheless, a 2.53 per cent growth in sales during one of the worst sales months of the year is still an achievement worth noting.

Unfortunately for The Express, the *Mail* is now running its own money give away game and the direction of readers may be reversed during September.

The *Mail's* sales drop helped keep The Mirror 50,000 ahead of it making the late Lord Rothermere's worries about the *Mail* becoming too popular look premature.

The *Mirror* stood virtually still compared with the month before and compared with August 1997 but in a declining popular market standing still is often as good as growth.

David Yelland's Sun bucked the trend of previous months and grew faster than The *Mirror* during Au-

NATIONAL NEWSPAPER CIRCULATION			
Daily newspapers	July 1998	August 1998	% change
<i>The Mirror</i>	2,375,064	2,377,782	+0.11
<i>Daily Star</i>	557,243	571,200	+2.50
<i>The Sun</i>	3,678,152	3,707,471	+0.80
<i>The Express</i>	1,123,172	1,151,583	+2.53
<i>Daily Mail</i>	2,345,794	2,312,285	-1.43
<i>Daily Telegraph</i>	1,063,216	1,064,873	+0.15
<i>Guardian</i>	391,238	380,857	-2.65
<i>Independent</i>	220,968	221,915	+0.43
<i>Times</i>	751,274	759,285	-1.60
Sunday newspapers			
<i>News of the World</i>	4,201,864	4,294,318	+2.20
<i>Sunday Mirror</i>	1,976,934	2,019,928	+2.17
<i>Sunday People</i>	1,726,164	1,775,252	+2.84
<i>Mail on Sunday</i>	2,234,040	2,224,776	-0.41
<i>Express on Sunday</i>	1,027,365	1,072,858	+4.43
<i>Independent on Sunday</i>	250,968	256,826	+2.33
<i>Observer</i>	400,747	387,342	-3.34
<i>Sunday Telegraph</i>	827,896	842,055	+1.71
<i>Sunday Times</i>	1,297,990	1,322,537	+1.89

gust; it was up by 29,000 copies a day. But its year-on-year figures are still a cause for worry. In August 1997 the title sold 156,000 copies a day more than this August.

Because the *Mail* has put on almost 100,000 copies in the same 12 month period, the popular market is only down by 193,000 year-on-year, but between them the *Daily Star*, *The Sun* and The Express have lost a worrying 288,707 copies a day, fully 2.6 per cent of the entire popular newspaper market.

In Scotland the *Daily Record* had a remarkably strong month, increasing by 4.56 per cent, or just under 1,000 copies a day. This is positively blooming compared with The *Guardian's* loss of over 10,000 during August and The *Times'* loss of 11,000 compared with July.

The *Times* sold 739,285 during August – over 100,000 copies a day fewer than it was selling in January.

Even accounting for the summer downturn, the feeling must be that

the title has extracted all the sales it can from its current price and marketing strategy and needs to spend more of Rupert Murdoch's money if it is to hold readers.

For The *Observer*, a change of editor and a more newsworthy product came too late to stop it falling below the benchmark figure of 400,000.

August notwithstanding, The *Guardian*-owned title was down 13,405 compared with July and 28,000 lower than the year before.

Despite the launch of big gun promotions, book serialisations and television advertising, September could be a sticky month for all broadcast newspapers. The death of Diana, Princess of Wales boosted all of the quality titles to record September nights. Comparing the coming month with last year is only going to make them all look bad.



Boycott: celebrating August sales growth at The Express

THE WORD ON THE STREET

NO MAGAZINE, it seems, is immune to the hope that the *FHM* effect can work for them, too. That can be the only explanation for the highbrow monthly *Prospect* forming a partnership with Vivus, makers of "the more traditional forms of treatment for erectile dysfunction" – presumably this consists of White House interns, combined with a kind of Meccano set. Together, the upmarket magazine and the uplifting company are offering a £5,000 prize for the best essay on the subject of sex. From the magazine's less-than-overflowing leadership, of policy wonks and think-tanks, it has attracted 300 entries. We must hope that, for these people, the Third Way is as rude as it sounds.

THE RELENTLESS upmarket race of the tabloids knows no bounds. A memo, circulated recently by the *Daily Mail* news editor, demands that all reporters have read the *Financial Times* by the time they get into the office. It is apparently a great source of stories for the paper. That will explain where yesterday's photograph of Scary Spice and her groom came from. Er, well, no – it came from OK Magazine.

TABLOID SHOW BUSINESS reporters had to fight back the smiles last week when news reached them that Matthew Freud (pictured), restaurateur and PR to the stars, had been hospitalised with kidney stones after being in pain for a number of weeks. "It's not that we want anything tragic to happen on the operating table," said one high profile showbusiness writer. "But a period of

extended suffering would be nice." It's good to be popular.

THE LONG-standing war between moralists and liberals, to keep filth, violence and other good stuff off our television screens, saw a battle go to the liberals last week. Sir Peter Rogers, head of the Independent Commission, said that, from now on, the ITC is to allow anything that gets a certificate in cinemas straight on to our

television screens. This will dispense with all the battles fought over getting *Reservoir Dogs* on to the small screen without upsetting certain moralising newspapers and rent-a-quote MPs.

ELSEWHERE AT Associated Newspapers, close personal friends of Jonathan Harmsworth, the new Lord Rothermere, had a whole week of thinking that they, like he, were in a job for life. Then the unthinkable happened. Adam Edwards, editor of the *Evening Standard* ES magazine, and a very close personal friend of the new viscount, was sacked.

Another close friend tells The Street: "I've just had my first sleepless night in years." Clearly, Lord Rothermere will be no protector of his buddies. How close he is to Veronica Wadley, features executive of the *Daily Mail*, is unknown, but she is tipped by insiders to become the next editor of the *Mail on Sunday's* Night & Day magazine.

THE DEPARTURE of Michael Foster from his job as Ginger Television's chief executive hints of troubled times ahead at the brash young media group. Well, troubled, at least, for whoever inherits Foster's role of liaising with Alan Patricoff, the man who runs Ginger's financial backers, Apax Partners. Effectively, Ginger's scary bank manager, Patricoff is the man with whom the buck really stops if things ever start to wobble at Virgin Radio. Ginger's finance director Andy Mullet is favourite for the job.

HAVING COST millionaires like Robert Maxwell and the Barclay Brothers large chunks of their fortune it looks like it is the turn of Michael Bloomberg to lose cash on the newspaper for Europe that no one wants to read. Bloomberg's financial information services group is expected to buy a chunk of The European this Thursday. The newspaper is starting to resemble the kind of progressive taxation policies long abandoned on these isles. As a way of making the rich poorer it may lack the redistribution element of Socialism, but hey, as long as it makes them poorer that's the main thing.

Spicy Spice

Sleazy, tasteless and proud of it



The headlines they said could never be written: a selection of the front page scoops that have helped the 'Sunday Sport' keep circulation and profits rising

The Daily and Sunday Sport's blend of sex and schoolboy humour is a success story of tackiness over taste. By John-Paul Flintoff

They don't teach this on journalism courses. Nathan Jones, 19, was offered a job on the staff of a national newspaper after organising an orgy involving a page three girl and 20 of the paper's readers. Other unusual tasks for Jones included wrestling naked with a 20-stone lesbian, eating live maggots and lighting a firework sticking out of a circus performer's bum".

At least, that's what Tony Livesey says in his book, *Babes, Booze, Orgies and Aliens*, published to coincide with the 10th anniversary of the *Daily Sport*. But you shouldn't necessarily believe it because Sport Newspapers - of which Livesey is editor and managing director - are famous for reporting that World War Two bombers were found on the moon and that aliens turned a British boy into a fish finger.

Like the papers themselves, the book looks tacky. Even Livesey's PR hides it when she enters Café Flo on St Martin's Lane - and she's probably wise to do so, because the café's female manager describes his paper as a "disgusting rag". But Livesey, 34, is unfazed. He's coped with

worse, appearing on *Hope I Got News For You?*, *Newsnight*, and Channel 4's *Cutting Edge*. "Everyone talks about that programme," he says. "We had a woman with giant breasts trampolining in the office."

Channel 5 invited him to make a programme himself, about strange people round Britain. He turned it down. Livesey became editor of *Sunday Sport* in 1993 after six years on the paper, and editor in chief of the group two years ago. He started in journalism on the *Nelson Leader* in Lancashire. After a local press he went to work on *Gulf News* in the Middle East. He returned aged 22 and applied for a job as a sports reporter on the *Sunday Sport*. He was given the job to replace a sports reporter fired for refusing to write that Elvis had been spotted at a football match. He claims to have done every job on the paper and last month became managing director of Sport Newspapers.

Livesey is the man who steered the *Sport* into profit after the regulator wiped £5m off its ad revenue by banning 98% sex lines. The *Sport* has never attracted mainstream advertisers - with the peculiar exception

of IBM - but unlike others, has managed to survive without them. And it's relied largely on word-of-mouth for readers: the IBA wouldn't allow TV advertising at the paper's launch.

In his first year as editor, Livesey closed the London office (the headquarters are in Manchester), and boosted sales by 100,000 a week, a rise of 33 per cent. Since then - despite the fact that it was - the paper has become rather a success. Valued at £150m, it sells 80 million copies a year. Profits this year were £2m, on a turnover of just £23m. Publisher David Sullivan is the 50th richest man in Britain, worth £250m; and the *Sport* can claim to have influenced a whole generation of new titles: *Loaded*, *Mizzen* and *FHM*.

What first took the *Sunday Sport* into profitability, in 1987, was the establishment of a "Big Breast Unit", which masterminded topless shots of an 18-year-old - apparently called Tina Small - whose chest measured 34 inches. She was succeeded by a traffic warden who "broke the legendary 100-inch barrier".

Inevitably, the paper has attracted much criticism from "feminists", "bleeding-heart liberals" and "gut-

less, politically correct pences". In the book, Livesey pour contempt on such critics: "Perhaps these short-sighted people would be happier for page-three girls to abandon careers that can earn them up to £1,000 a day and sell cigarettes instead?"

As arguments go, this is hardly

Would feminists be happier if Page Three girls gave up £1,000-a-day careers to sell cigarettes instead?

watertight, but Livesey takes up the theme again over a plate of fried potato skins: "Feminists say we're exploiting women. Fifty per cent of the models earn more than me. Feminists are more sexist than me. They have fought for freedom, women doing what they want. What's wrong with looking at breasts?"

Perhaps I'm not the best person

to ask. What does Livesey's female PR think? "I've no problem with what she says," she states. "I have been topless on holiday - but I have absolutely no intention of going topless here!"

To which Livesey replies: "And I respect you for that - but you have the choice." (Later on, Livesey hands me his mobile to speak to one of his colleagues, Millfield-educated Nick Cracknell, who rather likes the side down by crowing: "I used to be a journalist, but now I'm a pornographer!")

Suppose they're right. Suppose topless pics really aren't harmful. But what about the *Sport's* nastier stuff?

One of Livesey's predecessors, Drew Robertson, once wrote a column headed "Bollocks to the Press Council", after being criticised for using the words "sick Chinks" in a piece about eating dogs in China. This was too much even for the *Sport*: Robertson was sacked.

The comedian Jo Brand once dared to criticise the paper and incurred an extraordinarily unkind

Suppose they're right. Suppose topless pics really aren't harmful. But what about the *Sport's* nastier stuff?

One of Livesey's predecessors, Drew Robertson, once wrote a column headed "Bollocks to the Press Council", after being criticised for using the words "sick Chinks" in a piece about eating dogs in China. This was too much even for the *Sport*: Robertson was sacked.

The comedian Jo Brand once

"have gone too far," Livesey concedes. One of his own ideas was to send a get-well message, concealed in a sausage, to Allo 'Allo actor Gordon Kaye, as he lay in hospital recovering from a terrible accident. This, says Livesey, instinctively reaching for superlatives, was "the greatest invasion of privacy in journalism", but it's clear he regrets the incident. "Lessons were learned. We are never doing that again. And after Diana [died], we never entered the auction for pictures."

To which Livesey replies: "And I respect you for that - but you have the choice." (Later on, Livesey hands me his mobile to speak to one of his colleagues, Millfield-educated Nick Cracknell, who rather likes the side down by crowing: "I used to be a journalist, but now I'm a pornographer!")

Suppose they're right. Suppose topless pics really aren't harmful. But what about the *Sport's* nastier stuff?

One of Livesey's predecessors, Drew Robertson, once wrote a column headed "Bollocks to the Press Council", after being criticised for using the words "sick Chinks" in a piece about eating dogs in China. This was too much even for the *Sport*: Robertson was sacked.

The comedian Jo Brand once dared to criticise the paper and incurred an extraordinarily unkind

Suppose they're right. Suppose topless pics really aren't harmful. But what about the *Sport's* nastier stuff?

One of Livesey's predecessors, Drew Robertson, once wrote a column headed "Bollocks to the Press Council", after being criticised for using the words "sick Chinks" in a piece about eating dogs in China. This was too much even for the *Sport*: Robertson was sacked.

The comedian Jo Brand once

A quiet revolution in Wapping

The Sunday Times has changed. But not so as you'd notice.

How typical of its mystery editor. By Peter Cole

BY ITS own standards The Sunday Times made a few radical changes last Sunday. For the first time in very many years it put its comment and opinion back in the main news section, and altered the News Review, the former home of this content, to become a more exclusively commentary and features section. To other newspapers, particularly Sunday broadsheets, it was a very small bang indeed, a tinker:

Coincidentally, the monthly circulation figures were published, recording The Sunday Times' highest August sale for nearly 20 years, and showing the paper's share of the "quality" Sunday market at 47 per cent. The two events are closely related. While rival titles relaunch, repackage, sign new writers and change their editors, the market leader does very little. The rivals would be happy to trade innovation for that sort of success.

The Sunday Times' announcement of "changes" was a modest front page column in very small print. None of your "new, improved Sunday Times", just an underplayed mention of the sales figures, a list of "top writers", and the welcoming of a new clutch of top writers. Three to be precise, of which two - Robert Harris and Zoë Heller - are familiar names to Sunday Times readers, simply making a return or appearing in a new spot. The third was Melanie Phillips, late of *The Guardian* and *The Observer*.

The Sunday Times is thus the prime national newspaper example of the old adage "if it works don't fix it". It remains the newspaper created by the former editor, Andrew Neil - enormous, multi-sectioned, well organised, conservative in design and opinion, complex in content.

Neil, impressed by most things American, imported the idea of a Sunday package rather than a Sunday newspaper, and sections proliferated during his era. He said he offered the "supermarket" approach: you could tour the newspa-

per's sections, stopping to "buy" when something of interest caught your eye.

It was, and is, one paper for many markets. News Review was the "intellectual heart" of the newspaper for the politically-inclined and thinking readers. Business, sport, arts and travel all had their own sections, some spawning other sections, such as Money for personal finance. And then there are the magazines. The formula has been

fatal to the circulation to fall, the fact is that English readers visiting the newsagent on a Sunday morning usually exchange £1 for a copy. This is not an area where other Sunday broadsheet titles can throw stones without embarrassment.

Given this attitude to change, of keeping it evolutionary verging on imperceptible, it is usually driven by production factors - the challenge of printing so much on presses used by other titles, there is perhaps one interesting aspect of what happened on Sunday, one challenge to the Neil orthodoxy. By putting the editorial and op-ed pages into the main news section, The Sunday Times is moving slightly away from the "super-market" formula.

By presenting those pieces which define where the paper stands in the traditional place, the main news section, and out of the ghetto, it is subtly binding the paper together. This then is the first significant editorial content change from Andrew Neil's successor, John Witherow. Neil was a hard act to follow; he had the highest profile of any national newspaper editor, was forever appearing on radio and TV, was a man of considerable intellect with rare gifts of self-promotion and a pathological distaste for what he described as "the establishment". Although The Sunday Times is self-evidently bigger than anyone who edits it, that did not seem to be the case when Neil was in charge.

Witherow is very different. More contained, less flamboyant, less tragic, more "English". Those who like to criticise The Sunday Times - almost all journalists who do not work for a Murdoch title - like to describe him as Fleet Street's least known editor. But is that really fair, or more importantly, so what?

We have moved out of the era of the celebrity editor. Ask the person in the street to name the editors of any national newspaper, and there would be very few identified.

When Rupert Murdoch tired of

celebrity editors - Andrew Neil and Kelvin MacKenzie at The Sun - he turned to editors he thought would simply do a good job for him. He preferred them to make money rather than waves. But this is true not only of Murdoch's newspapers.

Editors become celebrities if they appear on radio and television regularly, if they front the repercussions of major stories - cash for questions, for example, if their paper transgresses - carrying photographs of Princess Diana in a gyna; or if they themselves are the centre of a salacious story - Neil, Donald Trelford, Pamela Borde. They are seldom celebrities if they get on with editing.

Neil reports in his autobiography that Murdoch worried that Witherow was "not driven enough", and "too much of a knee-jerk Tory". Both concerns were clearly overcome, and Witherow was appointed. In Murdoch's terms he has delivered.

New International newspapers are not crusades, their journalists not driven by a mission. They refer to the Wapping headquarters not as the office but the plant.

Papers like The Sunday Times are triumphs of production, marketing and distribution. They are immensely efficient. Editing such a multi-headed hydra demands as many qualities of organisation and management as flair and creativity.

The Sunday Times, like other Murdoch titles, is more popular in the market place than the media village. Its journalists often feel unloved, and its work regime is often one of authoritarianism and sometimes fear.

Witherow has the plant's respect, and the main reason for that is that he runs a successful product. Carping from the chattering journalistic classes is unlikely to bother him.

Peter Cole is professor of journalism at the University of Central Lancashire

techniques revealed a lack of polish, but their commitment was real enough. XFM was not exaggerating when it claimed it was "London's only Alternative". And yet, six months after its launch, it was hard to see quite why it had bothered.

When its first listening figures were released - around Christmas time - they revealed that just 239,000 people were tuning in to XFM every week. A conservative first target of 500,000 listeners had been Party's aim. It was national grief over the death of Diana, XFM claimed, which was largely responsible.

Unfortunately, three months later, the real picture became a lot clearer. By then, just 219,000 people



Andrew Neil: imported Sunday package from America

X marks the spot where music died

It started as London's only alternative radio station. But has XFM finally sold its soul? By Richard Cook

THE LAST time Bob Geldof rode in to rescue an apparently unfashionable cause, the issue seemed far more straightforward. But today the man recently dubbed by the *NME* as "the worst DJ in Britain" is no longer primarily the passionate activist he's a businessman who has lent his name and record collection to the rebirth of London's formerly alternative radio station, XFM.

He is actually supervising his new tractors say, the transformation of a station, set up to break interesting new music, into a bland corporate satellite of the Capital Radio Group. Worse, Geldof's production company, Planet 24, is consulting on the entire new sound of the station, a new sound that certainly hasn't found favour with many of the station's hard core listener base.

They have set up a protest website, sought meetings with Capital's programming director, Richard Park, and orchestrated a campaign of letter writing to Parliament and the media to protest at what has happened to their station. But XFM wasn't supposed to be like this. This isn't what anyone expected.

After six years of struggle, and no fewer than four unsuccessful licence applications, the alternative radio station XFM finally started broadcasting on 1 September last year. It had been a long hard road for the fledgling station, but at least it had been a journey sustained by die-hard supporters like the Cure's Robert Smith, and by the passionate belief of its energetic founder, Chris Parry.

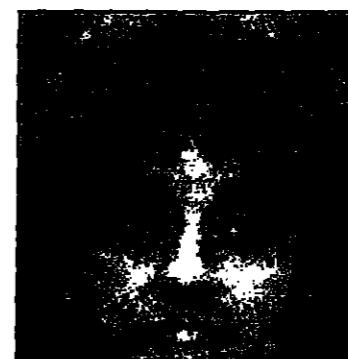
The fact that he let the station operate on a soft rent out of a house he owned in London's Charlotte Street had also helped. But so too had the dedication of a staff comprised largely of music-obsessed volunteers, of part timers and of the poorly paid. Their dream was simply that their brand of indie music would ride to the rescue of a city's increasingly bored radio-listening youth. A youth that had become progressively more energised by the seemingly identical brand of adult orientated rock that was being served up by the heavy hitters of the London music scene - the likes of Capital, Heart FM, and Virgin.

And on 1 May this year, something was. Capital Radio had just lost out to Chris Evans in the battle for Virgin Radio. But it promptly paid £15 million for a 90.1 per cent controlling stake in XFM. Capital initially changed little of the station's output and, by the time the next set of audience figures were produced in June, it seemed as if the alliance had already begun to weave its magic. A figure of 229,000 still seemed a long way off the 500,000 launch target, but the trend was in the right direction.

And then Capital decided to act. For a while, at the beginning of August, the station simply played wall-to-wall records. Then, when the DJs returned on 24 August, they weren't the same. The records they played weren't the same. They were more poppy, less alternative. XFM, the detractors said, had really sold out. "Every now and then, there is the glimmer of what it once was - Sparklehorse, Poly Harvey, Six By Seven," reports Jez Simmonds, one of the more moderate contributors to the web pages started by the disillusioned former fans.

"More often is the arvial striking reminder of what has replaced it: Republica, the Beautiful South, Lenny bloody Kravitz." Star presenter Gary Crowley had led the DJ exodus. In came Bob Geldof and, in the crucial position of programme controller, came Des Shore, who works for Geldof at Planet 24.

The Radio Authority says it is monitoring the output to make sure it complies with XFM's original promise of performance. In the meantime, nurtured on a new diet of bands like U2, Bob Dylan and Van Morrison, the protests of the indie aficionados will just get louder; and XFM's listenership, Capital promises, will just get bigger.



New XFM DJ, Bob Geldof, is upsetting the die-hard fans

TEL: 0171 293 2222

MEDIA, MARKETING, SALES

TUESDAY REVIEW
The Independent, 15 September 1998

FAX: 0171 293 2505

THE INDEPENDENT
THE INDEPENDENT
ON SUNDAY**Classified Telesales Executives**

Independent Newspapers (UK) Ltd, part of a global company with publishing interests in Australasia, South Africa and Europe are seeking to recruit trainee telephone sales executives of graduate calibre with the ability and drive to continue the outstanding success of our classified advertising department. You will need to be enthusiastic, ambitious and above all motivated in order to sell advertising space for the most innovative national newspaper in the UK.

You will:

Be of graduate calibre.
Have excellent key board skills.
Have self-motivation, tenacity,
firm and the ability to work under pressure.
Have ambition.

We will offer:

A basic salary of £2,700 - £4,000
per annum plus bonus.
5 weeks annual holiday.
Private health care and Pension.
On-going promotion and career.
Full training with excellent career structure.

For an initial telephone interview call our
training manager on 0171 293 2675.

CAREER STARTS**In Media Planning and Media Statistical Analysis**

Currently we are seeking graduates for trained positions with our clients, which are some of the biggest companies in their field.

Needed for the media planning vacancies is fluent, second European language, while media analysis positions require demonstrable skills in numeracy and spreadsheet software.

All positions offer a good basic salary, recognised training and significant development opportunities. CVs please by Fax or email.

REILLY
RECRUITMENT

6 BUCKINGHAM STREET,
LONDON WC2N 6BU
TEL: 0171 930 1010
FAX: 0171 930 1011
email: recruit@recruit.co.uk

NIPPON TRAVEL AGENCY

requires a

TOUR OPERATIONS SUPERVISOR

To work in a cheerful, exciting environment as part of a closely knit team for the production, development and operation of European tours for Japanese in its central London office.

Qualifications:- Fluent written and spoken Japanese
Minimum 4 years experience in the travel industry
Computer Literacy in Microsoft Office products
High standard of written and spoken English

An ability to converse in another European language, knowledge of Galileo Focalpoint CRS system and familiarity with Japanese word processing and spreadsheet packages are desirable.

An attractive salary will be offered according to qualifications and experience plus a benefit package which includes travel discounts.

Please submit CV with covering handwritten letter to:

Administration Manager
Nippon Travel Agency (Europe) Ltd
Academy House
161-167 Oxford Street
London W1R 1TA

OXFORD NETWORK TELEVISION

Part of the largest independent television group in the country, we are looking for a number of new血目 to join our growing team.

Freelance writer/directors
Researcher/writer
Lightworks editors
Production assistants
Production managers

For more information, please contact: www.oxfordnet.com or www.oxfordnet.com/vacancies.html

SALES EXECUTIVES**COMMERCIAL**

£20K + COMM + CAR
£20K + COMM + CAR
£19K + COMM + CAR
£18K + COMM + CAR
£18K + COMM + CAR
£17K + COMM + CAR
£16K + COMM + CAR
£15K + COMM + CAR
£12K + COMM + CAR
£11K + COMM + CAR
£10K + COMM + CAR

CONTACT: ROB, STEVE, GARY, AL OR SIMON

LT

RECRUITMENT SOFTWARE
TELECOM SOFTWARE
HARDWARE
INTERNAL & EXTERNAL
LT RECRUITMENT
VAR
INSURANCE SOFTWARE
LT TRAINING

CONTACT: BRAD, MATT OR STEVE

CONSTRUCTION

£20K + COMM + CAR
£22K + COMM + CAR
£22K + COMM + CAR
£25K + COMM + CAR
£25K + COMM + CAR
£27K + COMM + CAR
£21K + COMM + CAR

CONTACT: MARK, COLIN OR JAMIE

TECHNICAL

£24K + COMM + CAR
£22K + COMM + CAR
£22K + COMM + CAR
£25K + COMM + CAR
£25K + COMM + CAR
£24K + COMM + CAR

CONTACT: KARL, JEFF OR ERIC

TECHNICAL

ALL THE ABOVE POSITIONS OFFER EXCELLENT BENEFITS AND SUPERB PROSPECTS.
THESE ARE JUST A FEW OF OVER 200 URGENT SALES VACANCIES IN LONDON AND THE
SOUTH EAST.

CALL US NOW ON 0181 288 1818

Only people with sales experience aged between 20-45 need apply

email@salesvacancies.com



SALES EXECUTIVES

0800 371 500

9.00am - 5.00pm

WHO CAN CLOSE THE SALE!

**TELESALES AND
TELEMARKETING**

Basic £12-£16K OTE's £18K-£20K

Leading Co.'s

Exciting Industries

At least 1 yrs relevant experience

CALL 0171 495 6890

People And Work (AGY)

10 PORTMAN STR, LONDON W1H 9AQ



TELESALES AND
TELEMARKETING

Basic £12-£16K OTE's £18K-£20K

Leading Co.'s

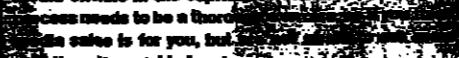
Exciting Industries

At least 1 yrs relevant experience

CALL 0171 495 6890

People And Work (AGY)

10 PORTMAN STR, LONDON W1H 9AQ



TELESALES AND
TELEMARKETING

Basic £12-£16K OTE's £18K-£20K

Leading Co.'s

Exciting Industries

At least 1 yrs relevant experience

CALL 0171 495 6890

People And Work (AGY)

10 PORTMAN STR, LONDON W1H 9AQ



TELESALES AND
TELEMARKETING

Basic £12-£16K OTE's £18K-£20K

Leading Co.'s

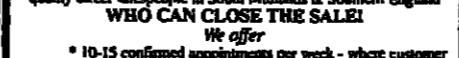
Exciting Industries

At least 1 yrs relevant experience

CALL 0171 495 6890

People And Work (AGY)

10 PORTMAN STR, LONDON W1H 9AQ



TELESALES AND
TELEMARKETING

Basic £12-£16K OTE's £18K-£20K

Leading Co.'s

Exciting Industries

At least 1 yrs relevant experience

CALL 0171 495 6890

People And Work (AGY)

10 PORTMAN STR, LONDON W1H 9AQ



TELESALES AND
TELEMARKETING

Basic £12-£16K OTE's £18K-£20K

Leading Co.'s

Exciting Industries

At least 1 yrs relevant experience

CALL 0171 495 6890

People And Work (AGY)

10 PORTMAN STR, LONDON W1H 9AQ



TELESALES AND
TELEMARKETING

Basic £12-£16K OTE's £18K-£20K

Leading Co.'s

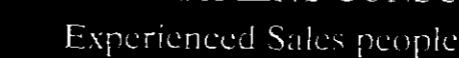
Exciting Industries

At least 1 yrs relevant experience

CALL 0171 495 6890

People And Work (AGY)

10 PORTMAN STR, LONDON W1H 9AQ



TELESALES AND
TELEMARKETING

Basic £12-£16K OTE's £18K-£20K

Leading Co.'s

Exciting Industries

At least 1 yrs relevant experience

CALL 0171 495 6890

People And Work (AGY)

10 PORTMAN STR, LONDON W1H 9AQ



TELESALES AND
TELEMARKETING

Basic £12-£16K OTE's £18K-£20K

Leading Co.'s

Exciting Industries

At least 1 yrs relevant experience

CALL 0171 495 6890

People And Work (AGY)

10 PORTMAN STR, LONDON W1H 9AQ



TELESALES AND
TELEMARKETING

Basic £12-£16K OTE's £18K-£20K

Leading Co.'s

Exciting Industries

At least 1 yrs relevant experience

CALL 0171 495 6890

People And Work (AGY)

10 PORTMAN STR, LONDON W1H 9AQ

Alexander Chapel Associates**CORPORATE ACCOUNT MANAGER**

MOBILE AIRTIME CONNECTIONS
Up to £25,000 Basic + £1,000 Commis

+ BMW + Benefits

SALES EXECUTIVE

SELF ADVERTISING AGENTS
Up to £25,000 Basic + £2,000 Commis

+ Benefits

SALES EXECUTIVE

INTERNET/NETWORK SOLUTIONS
£22,000 Basic, £5,000 OTE + Saab

+ Benefits

SALES ENGINEER

FLUID CONTROL EQUIPMENT
Up to £25,000 Basic + £2,000 Bonus

+ Vectra + Benefits

SALES ENGINEER

RELAYS AND SEMICONDUCTORS
Up to £24,000 Basic + £6,000 Bonus

+ Legans + Benefits

For these and many other Greater London
vacancies, call Rob Mould, now on

08

MUSWELL HILL
ODEON (0181-315 4217)
Highgate Dr Dolittle 1.05pm,
2.55pm, 4.45pm, 6.25pm
The Horse Whisperer 12.50pm,
4.10pm, 7.50pm Saving Private
Ryan 12noon, 3.40pm, 7.40pm
The X-Files 8.20pm

WALTHAMSTOW
ABC (0870-9020424) Waltham-
stow Central Lock, Stock & Two
Smoking Barrels 3pm, 5.30pm,
8.10pm Saving Private Ryan
2.30pm, 7.05pm Species II 2.50pm,
5.30pm, 8.25pm

WELL HALL
CORONET (0181-850 3351)
Brith Central Lock, Stock & Two
Smoking Barrels 4pm, 6.15pm,
8.15pm, 10.5pm Dr Dolittle
1.45pm, 8.55pm Godzilla 2.25pm
He Got Game 3.30pm, 6.15pm,
8.10pm Lock, Stock & Two
Smoking Barrels 2.10pm, 4.35pm,
7pm, 8.15pm Saving Private
Ryan 1.55pm, 5.20pm, 8.45pm
Species II 5.15pm, 7.25pm, 9.30pm
The X-Files 3.55pm, 6.25pm,
8.55pm

PECKHAM
PREMIERE (0181-235 3006)
BR/ Peckham Rye Babymother
2.15pm, 4.15pm, 6.15pm,
8.15pm, 10.5pm Dr Dolittle
1.45pm, 8.55pm Godzilla 2.25pm
He Got Game 3.30pm, 6.15pm,
8.10pm Lock, Stock & Two
Smoking Barrels 2.10pm, 4.35pm,
7pm, 8.15pm Saving Private
Ryan 1.55pm, 5.20pm, 8.45pm
Species II 5.15pm, 7.25pm, 9.30pm
The X-Files 3.55pm, 6.25pm,
8.55pm

PUTNEY
ABC (0870 9020401) Putney
Bridge, BR/ Putney, The Horse
Whisperer 12.45pm, 4.15pm,
7.45pm Lock, Stock & Two
Smoking Barrels 1.15pm,
3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm
Saving Private Ryan 1.45pm,
5.15pm, 8.45pm

RICHMOND
ODEON (0181-315 4218)
BR/ Richmond, The Horse
Whisperer 1pm, 4.30pm, 8.10pm
Lock, Stock & Two Smoking
Barrels 1.40pm, 4.10pm,
6.40pm, 9.30pm Saving Private
Ryan 1.10pm, 4.50pm, 8.30pm

ODEON STUDIOS (0181-315 4218)
BR/ Richmond Armageddon 5.20pm,
8.30pm Cousin Bette 1.10pm,
3.10pm, 5.30pm, 9.30pm
Dr Dolittle 1.20pm, 3.20pm
The Land Girls 1.10pm, 6.50pm
The Spanish Prisoner 3.30pm,
9.20pm The X-Files 2.10pm,
6.10pm, 9.10pm

ROMFORD
ODEON LIBERTY 2 (01708-
72900) BR/ Romford Armageddon
1.45pm, 4.50pm, 8pm Barney's
Great Adventure 1.0pm Dr Dolittle
12.20pm, 2.30pm, 4.40pm,
7.45pm, 9.45pm Godzilla 2.25pm
The Horse Whisperer 1.15pm,
3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm
Lock, Stock & Two Smoking
Barrels 1.40pm, 4.10pm,
6.40pm, 9.30pm Saving Private
Ryan 1.10pm, 4.50pm, 8.30pm

SALFORD
ODEON LIBERTY 2 (01708-
72900) BR/ Romford Armageddon
1.45pm, 4.50pm, 8pm Barney's
Great Adventure 1.0pm Dr Dolittle
12.20pm, 2.30pm, 4.40pm,
7.45pm, 9.45pm Godzilla 2.25pm
The Horse Whisperer 1.15pm,
3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm
Lock, Stock & Two Smoking
Barrels 1.40pm, 4.10pm,
6.40pm, 9.30pm Saving Private
Ryan 1.10pm, 4.50pm, 8.30pm

SHEPHERD'S BUSH
ODEON (0181-315 4218)
BR/ Shepherd's Bush, The Horse
Whisperer 1pm, 4.30pm, 8.10pm
Lock, Stock & Two Smoking
Barrels 1.40pm, 4.10pm,
6.40pm, 9.30pm Saving Private
Ryan 1.10pm, 4.50pm, 8.30pm

SHEPPING WOOD
ODEON (0181-989 3463) ♦ South
Woodford The Horse Whisperer
12.40pm, 4.05pm, 7.30pm Lock,
Stock & Two Smoking Barrels
1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm
Saving Private Ryan 12.45pm,
4.15pm, 7.30pm, 9.30pm
The X-Files 2.30pm, 5.40, 8.30pm

WOOLWICH
CORONET (0181-854 5043)
BR/ Woolwich Arsenal Lock, Stock
& Two Smoking Barrels 4pm, 6.15pm,
8.15pm, 8.35pm Saving Private
Ryan 4.05pm, 7.40pm

CINEMA REPERTORY

LONDON
CINE LUMIERE Queenberry Place
SW7 (0171-838 2144/2146)
Rien Ne Va Plus: Premiere
Introduced by Claude Chabrol
9pm

ICA CINEMA The Mall SW1
(0171-930 3647) La Vie De
Jésus (The Life Of Jesus)
6.15pm, 9pm The Connection
(18) 6.30pm

NATIONAL FILM THEATRE South
Bank SE1 (0171-633 0274/cc 928
3232) Bellini (18) 2.30pm, 7.30pm
The Merchant Of Venice (15)
6pm Our NHS: The NHS At 50:
Even (NC) 6.15pm Copper
(Stromer): Bodil Kjer (NC) 8.00pm
Tony Bennett: Television
(NC) 8.45pm

PEPSI MAX The Trocadero,
Piccadilly Circus W1 (0171-494
4153) Across The Sea Of Time -
A New York Adventure (3-D)
(U) 10.45am, 12.50pm, 2.55pm,
5.10pm, 7.15pm, 9.15pm
L... In Space (U) 11.55am,
2pm, 6.20pm, 8.25pm, 10.30pm
Everest (U) 4.05pm

PHOENIX CINEMA High Road N2
(0181-444 6789) The Horse
Whisperer (PG) 2.30pm, 8.10pm
The Spanish Prisoner (PG)
5.50pm

PRINCE CHARLES Leicester
Place WC2 (0171-437 8181)
Wag The Dog (15) 1pm Graeae
(20th Anniversary Edition) (PG)
3.30pm Gattaca (15) 6.30pm
As Good As It Gets (15) 9pm

**THE COMPLETE HISTORY OF
AMERICA (ABRIDGED)** Reduced
Price Royal Court Theatre
St Martin's Lane, WC2
(0171-733 5600) ♦ Covert
Garden/Charing X. Tue-Thu 8pm,
Fri 5.30pm & 8.30pm, Sat 5pm
& 8.30pm, mats [1] 4pm,
6.15pm, mats 8.30pm, 10.30pm

CHICAGO Ruthie Henshall stars
in this hit Broadway musical.
Adelphi Theatre Maiden Lane, WC2
(0171-344 0055) ♦ Charing X.
Mon-Sat 8pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, E16-
E36 (including ticket fee), 13.00pm

CLOSER Superb study of
contemporary sexual relationships
from Dealer's Choice author Patrick
Marber. Lyric Theatre Shaftesbury
Avenue, W1 (0171-942 0200)
E16-20. 10pm, Wed & Sat 2pm, ends
3 Oct. 19.00 mins.

BUDBY Musical biopic about
the life of Buddy Holly.
Savoy Theatre Aldwych, WC2
(0171-930 8800) ♦ Trafalgar
Circus Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [4][7] 3pm,
E12.50-E32.50, 160 mins.

CATS Lloyd Webber's musical
version of TS Eliot's poems. New
London, Park Lane, WC2
(0171-733 0274/cc 928
3232) Bellini (18) 2.30pm, 7.30pm
9pm Saving Private Ryan 12.30pm,
4.30pm, 6.45pm, 8.30pm
The X-Files 12.10pm, 2.50pm,
5.50pm, 8.35pm

STAPLES CORNER

VIRGIN (0870 9070171) BR/
Chigwellwood Armageddon 8pm Dr
Dolittle 2pm, 4.20pm, 6.15pm
The Horse Whisperer 2.30pm,
6pm Lock, Stock & Two
Smoking Barrels 1.10pm, 3.45pm,
6.15pm, 8.45pm Saving Private
Ryan 1.10pm, 4.50pm, 8.30pm

STRATFORD

**NEW STRATFORD PICTURE
HOUSE** (0181-555 3366)
BR/ Stratford East He Got Game
2.15pm, 5.15pm, 8.30pm
The Horse Whisperer 1.15pm,
4.40pm, 8pm Lock, Stock & Two
Smoking Barrels 1.30pm, 4pm,
6.30pm, 8pm Saving Private
Ryan 1pm, 4.30pm, 7.55pm

STREATHAM

ABC (0870-9020415) BR/
Streatham Hill/ Brixton
2.30pm, 6.35pm The Space
8.45pm Saving Private
Ryan 2.20pm, 4.10pm, 7.40pm

TURPIN LANE

CORONET (0181-888990) BR/
Turpin Lane Lock, Stock & Two
Smoking Barrels 4pm, 6.15pm,
8.35pm Saving Private Ryan
4.05pm, 7.45pm Species II 4.15pm,
6.30pm, 8.50pm

UXBRIDGE

ODEON (01895-813139)
BR/ Uxbridge Saving Private
Ryan 12.45pm, 4.15pm, 7.45pm
The X-Files 1.30pm, 5.30pm,
8.20pm

WALSHAMSTOW

CORONET (0181-235 3006)
BR/ Peckham Rye Babymother
2.15pm, 4.15pm, 6.15pm,
8.15pm, 10.5pm Dr Dolittle
1.45pm, 8.55pm Godzilla 2.25pm
He Got Game 3.30pm, 6.15pm,
8.10pm Lock, Stock & Two
Smoking Barrels 2.10pm, 4.35pm,
7pm, 8.15pm Saving Private
Ryan 1.55pm, 5.20pm, 8.45pm
Species II 5.15pm, 7.25pm, 9.30pm
The X-Files 3.55pm, 6.25pm,
8.55pm

WILMSLOW

ODEON (0181-315 4218)
BR/ Wilmslow Armageddon 5.20pm,
8.30pm Cousin Bette 1.10pm,
3.10pm, 5.30pm, 9.30pm
Dr Dolittle 1.20pm, 3.20pm
The Land Girls 1.10pm, 6.50pm
The Spanish Prisoner 3.30pm,
9.20pm The X-Files 2.10pm,
6.10pm, 9.10pm

WILTON

ODEON (0181-315 4218)
BR/ Wilton Armageddon 5.20pm,
8.30pm Cousin Bette 1.10pm,
3.10pm, 5.30pm, 9.30pm
Dr Dolittle 1.20pm, 3.20pm
The Land Girls 1.10pm, 6.50pm
The Spanish Prisoner 3.30pm,
9.20pm The X-Files 2.10pm,
6.10pm, 9.10pm

WILTON

ODEON (0181-315 4218)
BR/ Wilton Armageddon 5.20pm,
8.30pm Cousin Bette 1.10pm,
3.10pm, 5.30pm, 9.30pm
Dr Dolittle 1.20pm, 3.20pm
The Land Girls 1.10pm, 6.50pm
The Spanish Prisoner 3.30pm,
9.20pm The X-Files 2.10pm,
6.10pm, 9.10pm

WILTON

ODEON (0181-315 4218)
BR/ Wilton Armageddon 5.20pm,
8.30pm Cousin Bette 1.10pm,
3.10pm, 5.30pm, 9.30pm
Dr Dolittle 1.20pm, 3.20pm
The Land Girls 1.10pm, 6.50pm
The Spanish Prisoner 3.30pm,
9.20pm The X-Files 2.10pm,
6.10pm, 9.10pm

WILTON

ODEON (0181-315 4218)
BR/ Wilton Armageddon 5.20pm,
8.30pm Cousin Bette 1.10pm,
3.10pm, 5.30pm, 9.30pm
Dr Dolittle 1.20pm, 3.20pm
The Land Girls 1.10pm, 6.50pm
The Spanish Prisoner 3.30pm,
9.20pm The X-Files 2.10pm,
6.10pm, 9.10pm

WILTON

ODEON (0181-315 4218)
BR/ Wilton Armageddon 5.20pm,
8.30pm Cousin Bette 1.10pm,
3.10pm, 5.30pm, 9.30pm
Dr Dolittle 1.20pm, 3.20pm
The Land Girls 1.10pm, 6.50pm
The Spanish Prisoner 3.30pm,
9.20pm The X-Files 2.10pm,
6.10pm, 9.10pm

WILTON

ODEON (0181-315 4218)
BR/ Wilton Armageddon 5.20pm,
8.30pm Cousin Bette 1.10pm,
3.10pm, 5.30pm, 9.30pm
Dr Dolittle 1.20pm, 3.20pm
The Land Girls 1.10pm, 6.50pm
The Spanish Prisoner 3.30pm,
9.20pm The X-Files 2.10pm,
6.10pm, 9.10pm

WILTON

ODEON (0181-315 4218)
BR/ Wilton Armageddon 5.20pm,
8.30pm Cousin Bette 1.10pm,
3.10pm, 5.30pm, 9.30pm
Dr Dolittle 1.20pm, 3.20pm
The Land Girls 1.10pm, 6.50pm
The Spanish Prisoner 3.30pm,
9.20pm The X-Files 2.10pm,
6.10pm, 9.10pm

WILTON

ODEON (0181-315 4218)
BR/ Wilton Armageddon 5.20pm,
8.30pm Cousin Bette 1.10pm,
3.10pm, 5.30pm, 9.30pm
Dr Dolittle 1.20pm, 3.20pm
The Land Girls 1.10pm, 6.50pm
The Spanish Prisoner 3.30pm,
9.20pm The X-Files 2.10pm,
6.10pm, 9.10pm

WILTON

ODEON (0181-315 4218)
BR/ Wilton Armageddon 5.20pm,
8.30pm Cousin Bette 1.10pm,
3.10pm, 5.30pm, 9.30pm
Dr Dolittle 1.20pm, 3.20pm
The Land Girls 1.10pm, 6.50pm
The Spanish Prisoner 3.30pm,
9.20pm The X-Files 2.10pm,
6.10pm, 9.10pm

WILTON

ODEON (0181-315 4218)
BR/ Wilton Armageddon 5.20pm,
8.30pm Cousin Bette 1.10pm,
3.10pm, 5.30pm, 9.30pm
Dr Dolittle 1.20pm, 3.20pm
The Land Girls 1.10pm, 6.50pm
The Spanish Prisoner 3.30pm,
9.

TUESDAY RADIO

RADIO 1

(97.8-99.5MHz FM)
6.30 Chris Moyles. 9.00 Simon Mayo. 12.00 Jo Whiley. 16.00 Mark Radcliffe. 4.00 Dave Pearce. 6.30 Steve Lamacq - the Evening Session. 8.30 Digital Update. 6.40 John Peel. 10.30 Mary Anne Hobbs. 12.00 The Breezeblock. 2.00 Emma B. 4.00 - 6.30 Clive Warren.

RADIO 2

(89.9-92.5MHz FM)
6.00 Sarah Kennedy. 7.30 Wogan. 9.30 Ken Bruce. 12.00 Jimmy Young. 2.00 Ed Stewart. 5.05 John Dunn. 7.00 Carl Davis Classics. 8.00 Nigel Ogden. 9.00 George Gershwin: a Stairway to Paradise. 10.00 Kennedy and the Violin. 10.30 Richard Allinson. 12.05 Steve Madden. 3.00 Alex Lester.

RADIO 3

(90.2-92.4MHz FM)
6.00 On Air.
9.00 Masterworks.
10.30 Artist of the Week.
11.00 Sound Stories.
12.00 Composer of the Week: Mendelssohn.
1.00 Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert.
2.00 The BBC Orchestra. (R)
4.00 Voices.
4.45 Music Machine.
5.00 In Tune.
7.30 Performance on 3. Stephanie Hughes visits the castle at Eisenstadt - the winter palace of the Esterhazy family - which for the past ten years has been the stage for an international Haydn festival called 'the Haydn Days'. This concert, given last Friday, took place in the splendid 18th-century concert hall specially built for the performance of Haydn's symphonies and other large-scale works. Ermitage St Petersburg/Szabolcs Son decks Haydn: Overture 'Orlando Paladino'; Prokofiev: Symphony No 1 in D (Classical); Haydn: Symphony No 17 in F.
8.35 The Esterhazy Palace in Austria. Christopher Cook explores the Austrian Esterhazy Palace at Eisenstadt.
8.35 Concert, part 2. Haydn: Symphony No 7 in D (La chasse).
9.10 Postscript. George Szirtes takes a journey down the Danube, exploring its culture, history and life today. 2: From Bratislava to Szentendre.
9.30 Strauss Transcriptions. Piers Lane (piano). Rosenthal: Vienna Car-

PICK OF THE DAY

THE LATEST of Radio 4's morning interview formats, Resigning Issues (Sam Red), gets off to a powerful start, as Fergal Keane interrogates the former South African president F W De Klerk (right) on his reasons for quitting Nelson Mandela's multi-party government. De Klerk talks freely about the indignities he helped to dismantle, but also defends

many of its achievements; and he describes his growing disillusionment with Mandela. Turn On, Turn Off (8pm R4) is a new series about what drugs do and how they do it. Today, Professor Susan Greenfield looks at mind-altering drugs, including Ecstasy and LSD - not just fun, but a big help for scientists investigating brain function.

ROBERT HANKS



rival Schut-Ever: Concert Arabesque on Johann Strauss's 'The Blue Danube'. Godowsky: Concert Paraphrase on Johann Strauss's 'Die Fledermaus'. (R)

10.00 BBC Symphony Orchestra, Conductor Stanislaw Skrowaczewski. Skrowaczewski: Passacaglia. Barber: Medea's Meditation and Dance of Vengeance.

10.45 Night Waves. If life today could be defined by a single quality it might be speed. As two exhibitions open on the theme, Richard Coles races to examine the way artists across the century have reflected our obsession with speed and acceleration. Bill Buford of the New Yorker returns with his regular report for Night Waves from the city that never sleeps. Plus a review of John Maybury's new film 'Love Is the Devil', which sees Derek Jacobi play Francis Bacon, feted in France as Britain's greatest painter, as his lover takes a cocktail of drugs.

11.30 Jazz Notes.
12.00 Proms Composer of the Week: Janacek. (R)

1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night:

RADIO 4 (92.4-94.5MHz FM)

6.00 Today.

9.00 Resigning Issues: See *Pick of the Day*.

9.30 Tales from the Village.

9.45 Busters' Diaries.

10.00 NEWS: Woman's Hour.

11.00 NEWS: Cajun Country.

11.30 Sketches by Boz.

12.00 NEWS: You and Yours.

1.00 The World at One.

1.30 Points of Law.

2.00 NEWS: The Archers.

2.45 Afternoon Play: The Hydro.

3.00 NEWS: The Exchange. (071)

580 4444.

3.30 Strange Weather Days. (R)

3.45 Tales We Tell.

4.00 NEWS: The Learning Curve.

4.30 Shop Talk.

5.00 PM.

6.00 Six O'Clock News.

6.30 The Nudes.

7.00 NEWS: The Archers.

7.25 Front Row: Mark Lawson chairs the nightly arts programme.

7.45 The Jury. By Matthew Salom. A high-profile public figure is fighting a libel case to preserve her reputation. As proceedings get under way, it becomes clear to the members of the jury that the trial will have an impact on their own lives. With Suzanne Berthia, Patrick Robinson and Kelly Hunter. Director Andy Jordan (2125).

8.00 NEWS: Diagnosing Deutschland. The German capital is back in Berlin. And the city is a natural bridge between east and west - a magnet for migrants. Yet many resist such a role, as David Sels hears in the second of two programmes exploring fears about the German future. 2: 'Shrinking from the East'.

8.40 In Touch. Peter White with news for visually impaired people.

9.00 NEWS: Turn On, Turn Off - Drugs That Changed the World. Susan Greenfield presents a four-part series exploring the science behind some of the most important and powerful drugs ever created. 1: 'Mind-benders'. From LSD to Ecstasy, psychedelic drugs can have star-

ting effects on perception. Do we understand what they do to our brains? See *Pick of the Day*. 9.30 Resigning Issues. In a wide-ranging interview series, Fergal Keane explores the circumstances that lead people to resign and the effect their resignation has on the rest of their lives.

10.00 The World Tonight.

10.45 Book at Bedtime: Enduring Love. By Ian McEwan. (210).

11.00 The Iguanodon. A three-part comedy adventure by Paul Lucas. 2: 'Big Fat Lies'. The passengers and crew of the Iguanodon are still adrift in the Web. Besides, Don finds out that smoking and hiding do not mix, and they all come second in a run-in with some very persistent pirates. With Paul Haigh. (R)

11.30 Talking Pictures.

12.00 News.

12.30 Late Book: The Tesseract.

12.48 Shipping Forecast.

1.00 As World Service.

5.30 Shipping Forecast.

5.45 Inshore Forecast.

5.45 Prayer for the Day.

5.47 - 6.00 Farming Today.

RADIO 4 LW (198kHz)

9.45 - 10.00 Daily Service. 12.00

- 12.04 News; Shipping Forecast.

5.54 - 5.57 Shipping Forecast.

RADIO 5 LIVE (683, 909kHz MW)

6.00 Breakfast.

9.00 Brian Hayes.

12.00 The Midday News.

1.00 Rusco and Co.

4.00 Drive.

5.00 News Extra.

7.30 The Tuesday Match. Jonathan Overend hosts a night of UEFA Cup football. There is full coverage of the first-round, first-leg matches: Blackburn Rovers v Olympique Lyon (France), Aston Villa v Stromsgodset (Norway), Kosice (Slovakia) v Liverpool, Leeds United v Moreirense (Portugal), Vitoria, and Beitar Jerusalem (Israel) v Rangers. News, too, of the nights matches in the Worthington Cup second round, first leg.

10.00 Late Night Live. The day's big stories with Nick Robinson. Including 1030 a full sports round-up. 1100 News and finance. And between 1130 and 100 a sharp and spirited late-night topical discussion.

1.00 Up All Night.

5.00 - 6.00 Morning Reports.

CLASSIC FM (1002-1019MHz FM)

6.00 Nick Bailey. 8.00 Henry Kelly.

12.00 Requests. 2.00 Concerto.

3.00 Jamie Clegg. 6.30 Newsnight.

2.00 Classics in Seven. 9.00 Concert.

11.00 Alan Mann. 2.00 Concerto.

3.00 - 6.00 Mark Griffiths.

VIRGIN RADIO (125, 187-1280kHz MW 1058MHz FM)

6.30 Chris Evans. 9.30 Russ Williams.

1.00 Nick Abbott. 4.00 Robbie Williams.

5.00 Jeremy Clark.

WORLD SERVICE (198kHz LW)

1.00 Newsdesk. 1.30 The Farming World.

1.45 Britain Today. 2.00 Newsdesk.

2.30 Discovery. 3.00 Newsdesk.

4.00 World News.

4.35 Sports.

5.45 Inshore Forecast.

5.45 Prayer for the Day.

6.00 Farming Today.

RADIO 4 LW

9.45 - 10.00 Daily Service. 12.00

- 12.04 News; Shipping Forecast.

5.54 - 5.57 Shipping Forecast.

RADIO 5 LIVE

6.00 Ghosts of Africa.

6.30 Racing News.

6.45 Aerobics.

7.00 Driving Passions.

7.30 Driving Passions.

8.00 Close.

9.00 Today.

10.00 News.

11.00 News.

12.00 News.

1.00 News.

2.00 News.

3.00 News.

4.00 News.

5.00 News.

6.00 News.

7.00 News.

8.00 News.

9.00 News.

10.00 News.

11.00 News.

12.00 News.

1.00 News.

2.00 News.

3.00 News.

4.00 News.

5.00 News.

6.00 News.

7.00 News.

8.00 News.

9.00 News.

10.00 News.

11.00 News.

12.00 News.

1.00 News.

2.00 News.

3.00 News.

